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YOUTH IN TENNESSEE 1989

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
works
FOR TENNESSEANS

YOUTH IN TENNESSEE

1989

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INTRODUCTION

This publication summarizes employment difficulties of youth as they make the transition from a school-centered to a work-centered life. Data are presented on how demographic changes effect the employment situation of youth. In addition to labor force, education, income, and population information, descriptions of programs available to youth are listed. Where available, data for youth in Tennessee are presented.

The employment difficulties experienced by youth arise from factors that are inherent to the group. The youngest members of the labor force naturally have little or no job experience or specialized training. They also are less settled and dependent upon their own earnings than older workers and are therefore more likely to leave jobs.

For the above reasons, young workers are especially susceptible to competition from other groups in the work force and experience their best employment prospects during periods of high aggregate demand. During such periods, the most preferred workers are in short supply, and employers turn to younger workers. Conversely, as the supply of available adult workers increases during downturns, opportunities for youth decline. The effect of the "baby bust" on job market competition among young people during the first half of the 1980s may have been offset by the largest number of people born during the last few years of the "baby boom," who were not yet settled in jobs. In fact, the number of 20- to 24-year-olds did not drop appreciably until the mid-1980s.

The first half of the 1980s was the beginning of a period of declining youth population, a development that will continue into the mid-1990s. Although this decline was expected to lead to a better employment situation for youth, no clear improvements are evident. While further decreases in the youth population may yet lead to improvements, the experience of the first half of the decade indicates that youth employment problems are not easily overcome.

THE TRANSITION FROM SCHOOL TO WORK

Most 16- to 24-year-olds are in the midst of a major transition from a school-centered to a work-centered life. This transition has a direct impact on their participation and success in the job market, as shown in the following tabulation of data for the U. S. in 1986:

	16 and 17 years	18 and 19 years	20 to 24 years
Percent enrolled in school	92.3	54.6	23.6
Participation rate	44.5	65.2	78.9
Employment-population ratio	35.5	54.1	70.5
Unemployment rate	20.2	17.0	10.7

The youngest members of this age group, persons 16 and 17 years old, have limited ability to participate in the labor force because most of these teens are still in school. Their lack of work experience and training limits their appeal to many employers. Many of these young teens are supported by their families, and their employment is mainly a source of spending money. As a result, many of these younger persons work intermittently.

School attendance and lack of work experience also restrict the labor force activity of 18- and 19-year-olds and young adults (persons 20 to 24 years old), but to a lesser extent. Many 18- to 24-year-olds are out of school, and they typically have some work experience and training. These factors make it easier for these persons to find jobs. Older out-of-school youth, however, bring higher expectations and needs to the labor market. Many of these workers must try for the first time to support themselves and, in many cases, new families. Thus, in line with increased participation in the job market, the type of employment sought by young people also changes significantly as they move through their teens into their early twenties.

YOUTH IN THE TENNESSEE LABOR FORCE

Tennessee teenagers (16 to 19 years old) had an annual average unemployment rate of 14.8 in 1988 compared to 21.6 percent in 1987. In 1988, the national unemployment rate for teenagers was 15.3 percent, slightly higher than the Tennessee rate. Among nonwhite teenagers, the estimated unemployment rate was 31.8 percent compared to 11.7 percent for white teenagers in Tennessee. (See Table 1.)

Young adults 20 to 24 years old had an annual average unemployment rate of 11.0 percent in Tennessee compared to 8.7 percent nationally. White young adults had an annual average unemployment rate of 8.8 percent compared to 23.9 percent for nonwhite young adults.

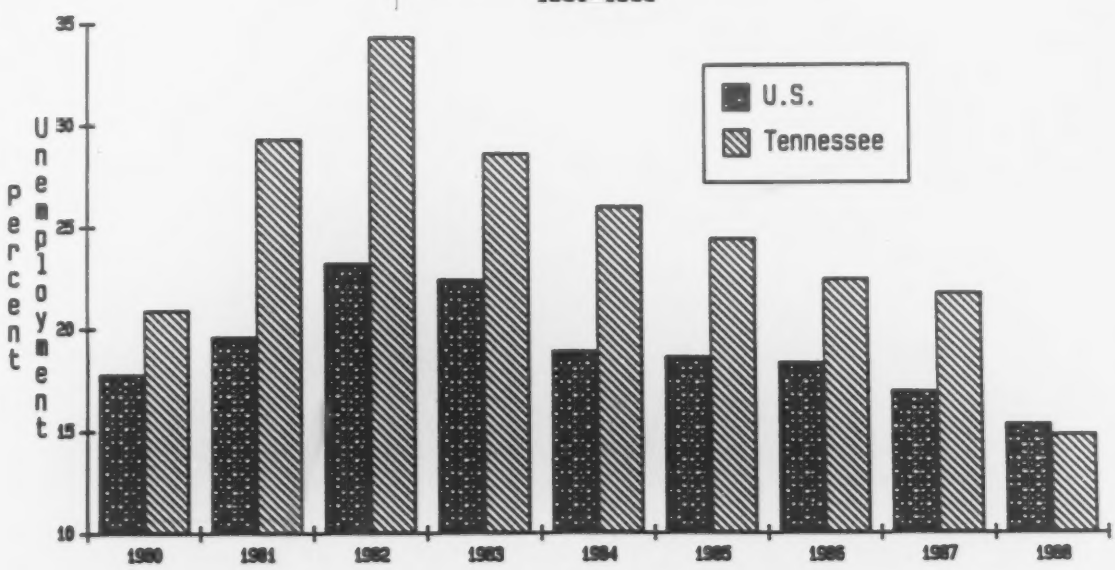
Nonwhite teenagers had the lowest labor force participation rate at 35.0 percent. Labor force participation rate is defined as the percentage of the group population that is in the labor force. The rate of participation is closely related to the unemployment rate. In all groups, the higher the participation rate the lower the unemployment rate.

TENNESSEE YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT BY COUNTY

Across Tennessee, 20 counties had an estimated youth unemployment rate of 20 percent or more in 1988. Cocke County at 34.4 percent had the highest unemployment rate for youth. Scott County at 3.9 percent had the lowest youth unemployment rate. (See Table 2.)

GRAPH 1

TENNESSEE AND UNITED STATES
YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATES
1980-1988



Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment and Earnings, January 1989.

TABLE 1

LABOR FORCE STATUS OF THE CIVILIAN NONINSTITUTIONAL POPULATION 16 YEARS AND OVER BY SEX, AGE, AND RACE

1988 ANNUAL AVERAGES

(Numbers in thousands)

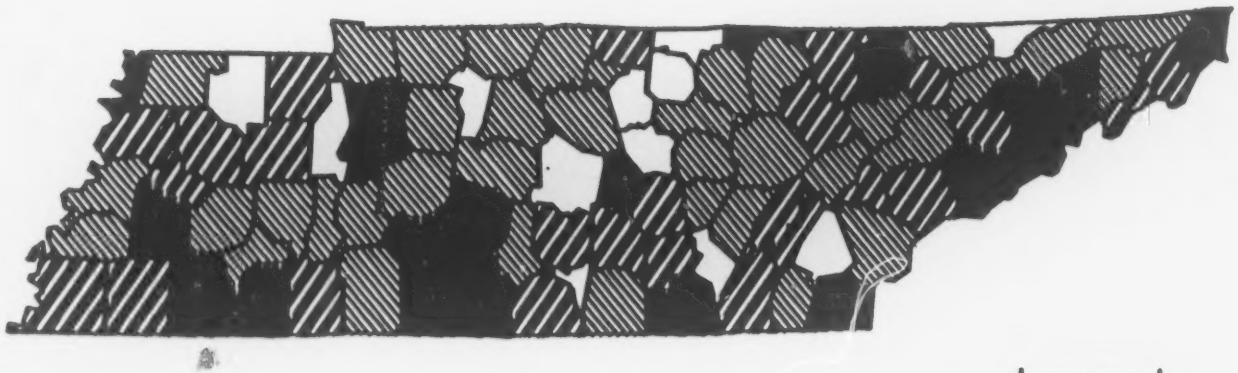
	Civilian Noninstitutional Population	Civilian Labor Force		Employment		Unemployment	
		Number	Participation Rate	Number	Percent of Population	Number	Rate
UNITED STATES							
Total	184,613	121,669	65.9	114,968	62.3	6,701	5.5
Men	87,857	66,927	76.2	63,273	72.0	3,655	5.5
Women	96,756	54,742	56.6	51,696	53.4	3,046	5.6
Both Sexes, 16-19 years	14,527	8,031	55.3	6,805	46.8	1,226	15.3
Both Sexes, 20-24 years	18,434	14,505	78.7	13,244	71.8	1,261	8.7
White	158,194	104,758	66.2	99,812	63.1	4,944	4.7
Men	75,855	58,317	76.9	55,550	73.2	2,766	4.7
Women	82,340	46,439	56.4	44,262	53.8	2,177	4.7
Both Sexes, 16-19 years	11,838	6,940	58.6	6,030	50.9	910	13.1
Both Sexes, 20-24 years	15,276	12,311	80.6	11,438	74.9	874	7.1
Nonwhite	26,418	16,913	64.0	15,156	57.4	1,757	10.4
Men	12,002	8,611	71.7	7,722	64.3	888	10.3
Women	14,416	8,303	57.6	7,434	51.6	869	10.5
Both Sexes, 16-19 years	2,690	1,090	40.5	774	28.8	316	29.0
Both Sexes, 20-24 years	3,158	2,193	69.5	1,806	57.2	387	17.6
TENNESSEE							
Total	3,741	2,351	62.8	2,214	59.2	136	5.8
Men	1,776	1,292	72.8	1,223	68.8	70	5.4
Women	1,965	1,058	53.9	992	50.5	66	6.3
Both Sexes, 16-19 years	312	155	49.7	132	42.4	23	14.8
Both Sexes, 20-24 years	355	269	75.9	240	67.6	30	11.0
White	3,127	1,975	63.2	1,879	60.1	96	4.9
Men	1,495	1,100	73.5	1,049	70.2	50	4.6
Women	1,631	875	53.7	829	50.9	46	5.3
Both Sexes, 16-19 years	249	133	53.4	117	47.1	16	11.7
Both Sexes, 20-24 years	281	223	79.1	203	72.2	19	8.8
Nonwhite	614	376	61.2	335	54.6	40	10.6
Men	281	192	68.3	174	61.9	20	10.4
Women	334	183	54.8	163	48.8	20	10.9
Both Sexes, 16-19 years	63	22	35.0	15	23.8	7	31.8
Both Sexes, 20-24 years	74	46	62.2	37	50.0	11	23.9

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment and Earnings, January 1989.

TENNESSEE YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

(16-19 YEAR OLDS)

1988 ANNUAL AVERAGES



Legend

- Under 10.0%
- 10.0% to 14.9%
- 15.0% to 19.9%
- 20.0% and over

TABLE 2
TENNESSEE'S TEENAGE UNEMPLOYMENT
(16-19 YEARS OLD)
1988 ANNUAL AVERAGES

	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	RATE
STATEWIDE	155,000	132,000	23,000	14.8
ANDERSON	1,921	1,647	274	14.3
BEDFORD	1,064	887	177	16.6
BENTON	518	485	33	6.4
BLEDSOE	302	268	34	11.3
BLOUNT	2,220	1,883	337	15.2
BRADLEY	2,650	2,332	318	12.0
CAMPBELL	1,037	830	207	20.0
CANNON	368	270	98	26.6
CARROLL	738	614	124	16.8
CARTER	1,397	1,180	217	15.5
CHEATHAM	969	886	83	8.6
CHESTER	547	479	68	12.4
CLAIBORNE	687	587	100	14.6
CLAY	332	302	30	9.0
COCKE	774	508	266	34.4
COFFEE	1,375	1,126	249	18.1
CROCKETT	490	408	82	16.7
CUMBERLAND	1,032	885	147	14.2
DAVIDSON	19,478	17,150	2,328	12.0
DECATUR	339	306	33	9.7
DEKALB	497	436	61	12.3
DICKSON	1,111	975	136	12.2
DYER	1,091	926	165	15.1
FAYETTE	750	607	143	19.1
FENTRESS	343	298	45	13.1
FRANKLIN	1,085	943	142	13.1
GIBSON	1,415	1,134	281	19.9
GILES	733	556	177	24.1
GRAINGER	495	430	65	13.1
GREENE	1,569	1,188	381	24.3
GRUNDY	412	339	73	17.7
HAMBLEN	1,598	1,271	327	20.5
HAMILTON	9,095	7,729	1,366	15.0
HANCOCK	155	141	14	9.0
HARDEMAN	571	430	141	24.7
HARDIN	717	596	121	16.9
HAWKINS	955	840	115	12.0
HAYWOOD	553	398	155	28.0
HENDERSON	615	537	78	12.7
HENRY	866	706	160	18.5
HICKMAN	502	445	57	11.4
HOUSTON	197	139	58	29.4
HUMPHREYS	347	256	91	26.2
JACKSON	280	255	25	8.9
JEFFERSON	988	811	177	17.9
JOHNSON	387	287	100	25.8
KNOX	10,540	9,166	1,374	13.0
LAKE	100	75	25	25.0
LAUDERDALE	665	568	97	14.6
LAWRENCE	1,132	808	324	28.6
LEWIS	335	264	71	21.2
LINCOLN	842	692	150	17.8
LOUDON	760	626	134	17.6
MCMINN	601	502	99	16.5
MCNAIRY	2,221	1,963	258	11.6
MACON	680	480	200	29.4
MADISON	759	655	104	13.7
MARION	1,447	1,132	315	21.8
MARSHALL	1,428	1,314	114	8.0
MAURY	851	657	194	22.8
MEIGS	184	152	32	17.4
MONROE	1,064	906	158	14.8
MONTGOMERY	2,361	2,061	300	12.7
MOORE	123	111	12	9.8
MORGAN	436	360	76	17.4
OBION	949	853	96	10.1
OVERTON	488	428	60	12.3
PERRY	188	165	23	12.2
PICKETT	136	98	38	27.9
POLK	307	223	84	27.4
PUTNAM	2,589	2,323	266	10.3
RHEA	836	683	153	18.3
ROANE	1,416	1,222	194	13.7
ROBERTSON	1,775	1,591	184	10.4
RUTHERFORD	4,737	4,292	445	9.4
SCOTT	559	452	107	19.1
SEQUATCHIE	204	196	8	3.9
SEVIER	1,455	1,149	306	21.0
SHELBY	24,251	20,103	4,148	17.1
SMITH	529	480	49	9.3
STEWART	287	249	38	13.2
SULLIVAN	3,952	3,365	587	14.9
SUMNER	3,914	3,439	475	12.1
TIPTON	1,116	982	134	12.0
TROUSDALE	205	181	24	11.7
UNICOI	559	463	96	17.2
UNION	380	323	57	15.0
VAN BUREN	186	164	22	11.8
WARREN	969	780	189	19.5
WASHINGTON	3,304	2,821	483	14.6
WAYNE	424	380	44	10.4
WEAKLEY	1,243	1,136	107	8.6
WHITE	581	509	72	12.4
WILLIAMSON	2,619	2,320	299	11.4
WILSON	2,751	2,438	313	11.4

SOURCE: TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
RESEARCH AND STATISTICS DIVISION

DECLINE IN YOUTH POPULATION

During the first half of the 1980s, the size of the youth population had declined considerably. As persons born during the "baby bust" period, which started in the mid-1960s, entered the 16- to 24-year-old age group, the civilian noninstitutional youth population dropped 6.9 percent from a level of 36.1 million in 1979 to 33.6 million in 1987; the extent of this decrease differed among various age groups.

TABLE 3
THE U.S. CIVILIAN NONINSTITUTIONAL POPULATION
FROM 1979 AND 1987 BY AGE AND SEX
(Numbers in thousands.)

Age and Sex	1979	1987	1979-1987 Number Change	1979-1987 Percent Change
Total, 16 to 24 years. . . .	36,068	33,576	-2,490	-6.9
16 to 19 years	16,379	14,606	-1,773	-10.8
16 to 17 years	8,191	7,501	-690	-8.4
18 to 19 years	8,188	7,104	-1,084	-13.2
20 to 24 years	19,687	18,970	-717	-3.6
Men, 16 to 24 years.	17,669	16,530	-1,139	-6.4
16 to 19 years	8,155	7,335	-820	-10.1
16 to 17 years	4,155	3,824	-331	-8.0
18 to 19 years	4,000	3,510	-490	-12.3
20 to 24 years	9,514	9,195	-319	-3.4
Women, 16 to 24 years. . . .	18,397	17,047	-1,350	-7.3
16 to 19 years	8,224	7,271	-953	-11.6
16 to 17 years	4,036	3,677	-359	-8.9
18 to 19 years	4,188	3,594	-594	-14.2
20 to 24 years	10,173	9,776	-397	-3.9

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment and Earnings, January 1980 and 1988.

UNEMPLOYMENT

Back-to-back economic downturns and a subsequent recovery largely determined events in the labor market during the 1979-87 period. Between 1979 and 1982, unemployment rates for all persons, including youth, rose sharply as a result of the two recessions. Although unemployment rates for youth as well as other workers fell somewhat during the subsequent economic recovery, rates for most youth-age groups were still higher in 1987 than in 1979. (See Table 4.) Thus, unemployment rates for youth continued to remain higher despite five years of recovery and a substantially smaller number of teenagers and young adults competing in the labor market. The following tabulation illustrates the change in unemployment rates and the decline in population between 1979 and 1987 for persons 16 to 24 years old:

Age	Percentage-point change in unemployment rates	Percent decline in population
16 and 17 years. . . .	+1.0	-8.4
18 and 19 years. . . .	+0.5	-13.2
20 to 24 years	+0.6	-3.6

The failure of youth unemployment rates to return to 1979 levels would have been more easily understood if there had been an increase in youth labor force participation (that is, if the decreased competition due to the smaller number of youth had drawn proportionately more youth into the job market in the 1979-87 period). However, youth labor force participation declined.

TABLE 4

CIVILIAN UNEMPLOYMENT RATES FOR PERSONS 16 TO 24 YEARS OLD BY AGE AND SEX: ANNUAL AVERAGES, 1979-86

Age and Sex	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
Total, 16 to 24 years. . . .	11.8%	13.9%	14.9%	17.8%	17.2%	13.9%	13.6%	13.3%	12.2%
16 to 19 years	16.1	17.8	19.6	23.2	22.4	18.9	18.6	18.3	16.9
16 and 17 years.	18.1	20.0	21.4	24.9	24.5	21.2	21.0	20.2	19.1
18 and 19 years.	14.7	16.2	18.4	22.1	21.1	17.4	17.0	17.0	15.2
20 to 24 years	9.1	11.5	12.3	14.9	14.5	11.5	11.1	10.7	9.7
Men, 16 to 24 years.	11.4	14.6	15.7	19.1	18.4	14.4	14.1	13.7	12.6
16 to 19 years	15.9	18.3	20.1	24.4	23.3	19.6	19.5	19.0	17.8
16 and 17 years.	17.9	20.4	22.0	26.4	25.2	21.9	21.9	20.8	20.2
18 and 19 years.	14.3	16.7	18.8	23.1	22.2	18.3	17.9	17.7	16.0
20 to 24 years	8.7	12.5	13.2	16.4	15.9	11.9	11.4	11.0	9.9
Women, 16 to 24 years. . . .	12.2	13.0	14.0	16.2	15.8	13.3	13.0	12.8	11.7
16 to 19 years	16.4	17.2	19.0	21.9	21.3	18.0	17.6	17.6	15.9
16 and 17 years.	18.3	19.8	20.7	23.2	23.7	20.4	20.0	19.8	18.0
18 and 19 years.	15.0	15.6	17.9	21.0	19.9	16.8	16.0	16.3	14.3
20 to 24 years	9.6	10.4	11.2	13.2	12.9	10.9	10.7	10.3	9.4

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Monthly Labor Review, June 1987, and Employment and Earnings, January 1988.

In 1987, almost three-fourths of all unemployed teenagers in the U.S. were either entering the labor force for the first time or re-entering the labor force after a period of absence.

TABLE 5
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF UNEMPLOYED PERSONS BY SEX, AGE, AND REASON FOR UNEMPLOYMENT
1987 ANNUAL AVERAGES

	Total unemployed		Reason for unemployment				
	Number (in thousands)	Percent	Job losers		Job leavers	Reentrants	New entrants
			Total	On layoff			
UNITED STATES							
Total	7,425	100.0	48.0	12.7	13.0	26.6	12.4
Men	3,369	100.0	68.0	18.2	12.3	16.6	3.2
Women	2,709	100.0	39.4	10.5	15.0	38.4	7.2
Both Sexes, 16 to 19 years	1,347	100.0	15.6	3.4	10.8	27.8	45.8
SOUTH EAST CENTRAL[1]							
Total	556	100.0	45.7	13.6	13.0	25.7	15.6
Men	295	100.0	56.5	17.0	11.8	18.2	13.5
Women	272	100.0	34.0	10.0	14.3	33.8	17.9
Both Sexes, 16 to 19 years	112	100.0	12.5	3.6	9.8	27.5	50.1

[1] Includes the states of Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, and Tennessee.

Sources: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment and Earnings, January 1988 and Geographic Profile of Employment and Unemployment, 1987.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT BY STATES

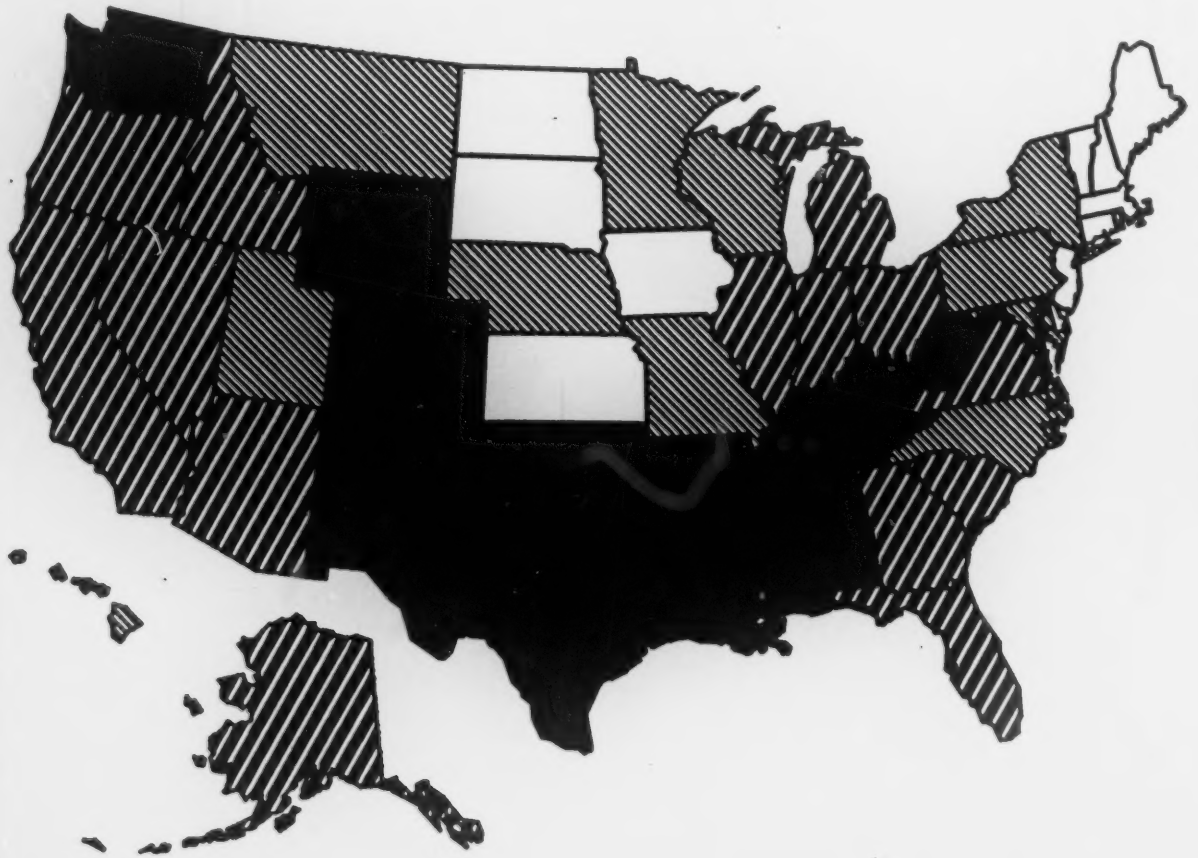
In 1987, the national teenage (16-to 19-year-olds) unemployment rate was 16.9 percent. Tennessee's estimated unemployment rate for teenagers was 21.6 percent and ranked 41st in the nation.

Eleven states had an estimated teenage unemployment rate of below 12.0 percent in 1987. New Hampshire had the lowest unemployment rate for teenagers at 5.8 percent, followed by Massachusetts at 7.7 percent. Thirteen states had an estimated teenage unemployment rate of 20 percent or more in 1987. Mississippi had the highest unemployment rate for teenagers at 35.9 percent, followed by Louisiana at 30.8 percent.

UNITED STATES YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

(16-19 YEAR OLDS)

1987 ANNUAL AVERAGES



Legend

- Under 12.0%
- 12.0% to 15.9%
- 16.0% to 19.9%
- 20.0% and over

LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE

Beginning in 1980, there was a sharp dip in the long-run trend of rising youth labor force participation, precipitated by the two recessions that occurred in the early 1980s. The labor force participation rate is that percent of the civilian noninstitutional population in the labor force. During the 1979-83 period, the participation rates of teenagers of both sexes and young adult men fell, while the rate for young adult women changed little. The percentage-point changes in civilian labor force participation rates (1979-83) for men and women age 16 to 24 years were:

Age	Men	Women
16 and 17 years	-8.4%	-5.9%
18 and 19 years	-3.5	-2.2
20 to 24 years	-1.8	+0.8

During the subsequent years of economic recovery, the participation rates for young men and women in most youth age groups did rise somewhat, but the increase has not been what might be expected from a strong youth labor market. The participation rates for teenage men, for example, have failed to rise to their pre-recession levels.

TABLE 6
U.S. CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATES BY AGE AND SEX: ANNUAL AVERAGES, 1979-87

Age and sex	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
Total, 16 to 24 years. . . .	68.7%	68.1%	67.6%	67.2%	67.1%	67.7%	68.3%	68.6%	68.4%
16 to 19 years	58.1	56.9	55.3	54.1	53.5	53.9	54.5	54.7	54.7
16 and 17 years.	48.7	47.0	45.3	43.3	41.6	42.4	43.6	44.5	45.1
18 and 19 years.	67.4	66.7	65.7	64.5	64.6	64.9	65.3	65.2	64.8
20 to 24 years	77.6	77.2	77.4	77.1	77.2	77.6	78.2	78.9	78.9
Men, 16 to 24 years.	75.1	74.5	73.8	72.6	72.3	72.8	73.0	73.0	72.3
16 to 19 years	61.7	60.7	59.2	56.7	56.2	56.0	56.8	56.4	56.1
16 and 17 years.	51.6	50.1	47.9	45.4	43.2	43.5	45.1	45.3	45.6
18 and 19 years.	72.1	71.5	70.6	67.9	68.6	68.1	68.9	68.3	67.4
20 to 24 years	86.6	86.0	85.6	84.9	84.8	85.0	85.0	85.3	85.2
Women, 16 to 24 years. . . .	62.6	62.0	61.7	62.0	61.9	62.8	63.7	60.4	64.6
16 to 19 years	54.5	53.1	51.4	51.4	50.8	51.8	52.1	53.0	53.3
16 and 17 years.	45.8	43.8	42.6	41.0	39.9	41.2	42.1	43.7	44.6
18 and 19 years.	62.9	62.1	61.1	61.2	60.7	61.8	61.7	62.3	62.2
20 to 24 years	69.1	69.0	69.7	69.8	69.9	70.4	71.8	72.4	73.0

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment and Earnings, January 1979-88.

EMPLOYMENT-POPULATION RATIOS

Employment-population ratios for both younger and older groups declined from 1979 to 1982. With the onset of the economic recovery, the ratios of each group rose; however, they still remained below the pre-recession levels among men and teenage women.

TABLE 7
EMPLOYMENT-POPULATION RATIOS FOR PERSONS 16 TO 24 YEARS OLD BY AGE AND SEX: ANNUAL AVERAGES, 1979-87

Age and Sex	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
Total, 16 to 24 years. . . .	60.6	58.6	57.6	55.3	55.6	58.3	59.0	59.5	60.1
16 to 19 years	48.5	46.6	44.6	41.5	41.5	43.7	44.4	44.6	45.5
16 and 17 years.	39.8	37.5	35.5	32.5	31.4	33.4	34.5	35.5	36.5
18 and 19 years.	57.4	55.7	53.5	50.2	51.0	53.6	54.2	54.1	55.0
20 to 24 years	70.4	68.3	67.8	65.7	66.0	68.7	69.6	70.5	71.3
Men, 16 to 24 years.	66.5	63.5	62.2	58.7	59.2	62.3	62.7	63.0	63.2
16 to 19 years	51.7	49.5	47.1	42.9	43.1	45.0	45.7	45.7	46.1
16 and 17 years.	42.3	39.8	37.3	33.4	32.3	34.0	35.2	35.9	36.4
18 and 19 years.	61.6	59.4	57.2	52.2	53.4	55.7	56.6	56.2	56.6
20 to 24 years	78.9	75.1	74.2	71.0	71.3	74.9	75.3	76.3	76.8
Women, 16 to 24 years. . . .	54.8	53.9	53.3	52.0	52.2	54.4	55.4	56.0	57.1
16 to 19 years	45.3	43.8	42.0	40.2	40.0	42.5	42.9	43.6	44.8
16 and 17 years.	37.2	35.1	33.7	31.5	30.5	32.8	33.7	35.1	36.5
18 and 19 years.	53.3	52.2	50.0	48.3	48.6	51.5	51.9	52.2	53.3
20 to 24 years	62.4	61.8	61.8	60.6	60.9	62.7	64.1	64.9	66.1

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Monthly Labor Review, June 1987, and Employment and Earnings, January 1988.

EMPLOYMENT

Some evidence suggests that in the mid-1980s, more young people experienced trouble obtaining full-time employment. The proportion of employed young persons who work part-time for economic reasons increased between 1979 and 1982. Although the proportion who work part-time for economic reasons has decreased since 1982, it has not reached the 1979 level. The following table shows, for selected years, the percentage of employed men and women, 16 to 24 years old, working part-time involuntarily:

TABLE 8
PERCENT OF PERSONS WORKING PART-TIME INVOLUNTARILY BY AGE AND SEX

Age	1979	1982	1986	1988
Total:				
16 to 19 years	8.2%	13.8%	11.6%	10.2%
16 and 17 years	7.9	11.1	8.9	8.7
18 and 19 years	8.3	15.4	13.4	11.2
20 to 24 years	5.1	8.9	7.8	6.9
Men:				
16 to 19 years	7.8	13.5	11.3	10.1
20 to 24 years	4.4	8.6	7.2	6.7
Women:				
16 to 19 years	8.5	14.1	11.9	10.3
20 to 24 years	5.8	9.1	8.4	7.2

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment and Earnings, January 1980, 1983, 1987, and 1989.

For those young people who were not in school, and who therefore were more likely to seek full-time employment, there were decreases between October 1979 and October 1986 in the proportion of youth working full-time. The percentages of employed men and women, 16 to 24 years old, working full-time and not enrolled in school are shown in the following table:

TABLE 9
PERCENT OF PERSONS EMPLOYED FULL-TIME
NOT ENROLLED IN SCHOOL BY AGE AND SEX

Age	1979	1986
Men:		
16 and 17 years	73.9%	59.0%
18 and 19 years	85.7	77.3
20 and 21 years	92.2	86.9
22 to 24 years	93.7	89.6
Women:		
16 and 17 years	56.6	45.6
18 and 19 years	76.2	62.0
20 and 21 years	82.5	80.1
22 to 24 years	85.3	82.2

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Monthly Labor Review, June 1987

In the east south central division, 222,000 employed young persons (16 to 19 years old) worked part-time, and 20 percent of those did so for economic reasons. Of the 112,000 young persons (16 to 19 years old) unemployed, 60 percent were looking for full-time work. In Tennessee, 19 percent of the 80,000 employed young persons (16 to 19 years old) who worked part-time did so for economic reasons.

TABLE 10
CIVILIAN EMPLOYED AND UNEMPLOYED PERSONS BY FULL- AND PART-TIME STATUS
1987 ANNUAL AVERAGES

EAST SOUTH CENTRAL[1]

(In thousands)

Sex and age	Employed[2]			Unemployed	
	Full-time schedules	Part-time for economic reasons	Voluntary Part-time	Looking for Full-time work	Looking for Part-time work
Total	5,308	398	794	482	84
Men	3,175	188	260	258	36
Women	2,133	210	534	224	48
Both sexes					
16 to 19 years	127	44	178	68	44

TENNESSEE

(In thousands)

Sex and age	Employed[2]			Unemployed	
	Full-time schedules	Part-time for economic reasons	Voluntary Part-time	Looking for Full-time work	Looking for Part-time work
Total	1,820	113	248	127	28
Men	1,057	57	83	65	12
Women	763	57	165	62	15
Both sexes					
16 to 19 years	46	15	65	*	*

[1]Includes Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, and Tennessee.

[2]Employed persons with a job but not at work are distributed according to whether they usually work full- or part-time.

* Data are not shown when the labor force base does not meet BLS publication standards of reliability for the particular area, based on the sample in that area.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics,
Geographic Profile of Employment and Unemployment, 1987.

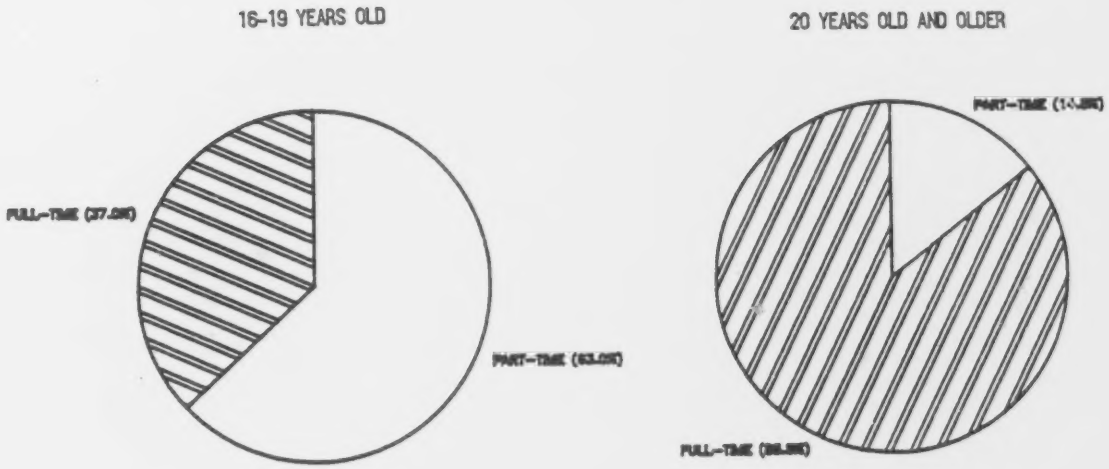
PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT

Younger (ages 16 to 24) workers account for a much higher proportion of the part-time than full-time employed. While age differences between part- and full-time workers occur among both sexes, differences are more pronounced among men. Half of male part-timers were 16 to 24 years old, compared with three-tenths of their female counterparts. (See Table 11.) A part-time schedule allows young people to attend school while working. Sixteen- and 17-year-olds are most likely to hold or seek part-time jobs, while most 18- to 24-year-olds are in the full-time labor force.

The connection between part-time work and school attendance is shown in Table 15. In January 1989, 6.6 million people between the ages of 16 and 24 were in school and employed. About 80 percent of these worked part-time. By comparison, of the 12 million in that age group who worked but were not enrolled in school, fewer than 14 percent were part-timers.

GRAPH 2

PERCENT OF PART-TIME VS. FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT BY AGE
1987 ANNUAL AVERAGES



Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment and Earnings, January 1988.

TABLE 11
EMPLOYED AND UNEMPLOYED FULL- AND PART-TIME WORKERS BY SEX, AGE, AND RACE
1987 ANNUAL AVERAGES

(In thousands)

Sex, age, and race	Employed[1]						Unemployed	
	Full-time			Part-time				
	Total	Full-time schedules	Part-time for economic reasons, usually work full-time	Total	Voluntary	Part-time for economic reasons, usually work part-time	Looking for full-time work	Looking for part-time work
TOTAL								
Total, 16 years and over	92,957	91,251	1,706	19,483	15,788	3,695	5,979	1,446
16 to 19 years	2,454	2,321	133	4,185	3,611	574	653	694
16 to 17 years	443	416	27	2,292	2,089	203	184	464
18 to 19 years	2,011	1,905	106	1,894	1,523	371	469	230
20 years and over	90,502	88,929	1,573	15,298	12,177	3,121	5,325	752
20 to 24 years	10,681	10,403	278	2,842	2,147	695	1,230	223
25 years and over	79,820	78,526	1,294	12,455	10,029	2,426	4,096	529
25 to 54 years	68,753	67,645	1,108	9,017	6,991	2,026	3,724	409
55 years and over	11,066	10,880	186	3,438	3,038	400	372	119
Men, 16 years and over	55,746	54,735	1,011	6,360	4,858	1,502	3,520	580
16 to 19 years	1,365	1,292	73	2,015	1,742	273	373	358
20 years and over	54,381	53,443	938	4,345	3,116	1,229	3,147	222
20 to 24 years	5,871	5,699	172	1,187	874	313	695	84
25 years and over	48,511	47,744	767	3,157	2,242	915	2,452	138
25 to 54 years	41,400	40,744	656	1,735	985	750	2,201	82
55 years and over	7,110	6,999	111	1,422	1,257	165	252	55
Women, 16 years and over	37,210	36,515	695	13,124	10,930	2,194	2,458	866
16 to 19 years	1,089	1,029	60	2,171	1,870	301	280	336
20 years and over	36,121	35,487	634	10,953	9,060	1,893	2,178	530
20 to 24 years	4,810	4,704	106	1,656	1,273	383	535	139
25 years and over	31,310	30,783	527	9,297	7,787	1,510	1,644	391
25 to 54 years	27,354	26,902	452	7,281	6,006	1,275	1,523	327
55 years and over	3,956	3,881	75	2,016	1,781	235	120	64
WHITE								
Men, 16 years and over	49,139	48,286	853	5,508	4,316	1,192	2,679	453
16 to 19 years	1,217	1,155	62	1,782	1,557	225	275	273
20 years and over	47,923	47,132	791	3,725	2,759	966	2,403	180
20 to 24 years	5,144	5,001	143	1,006	765	241	501	67
25 years and over	42,780	42,131	649	2,720	1,994	726	1,902	113
25 to 54 years	38,384	35,830	554	1,435	841	594	1,697	67
55 years and over	6,396	6,301	95	1,286	1,153	133	205	46
Women, 16 years and over	31,414	30,847	567	11,728	9,962	1,766	1,693	676
16 to 19 years	962	910	52	1,938	1,683	255	193	254
20 years and over	30,452	29,937	515	9,790	8,279	1,511	1,500	422
20 to 24 years	4,176	4,091	85	1,422	1,118	304	351	98
25 years and over	26,276	25,846	430	8,369	7,161	1,208	1,149	324
25 to 54 years	22,839	22,472	367	6,586	5,557	1,029	1,054	269
55 years and over	3,437	3,374	63	1,784	1,604	180	95	55
BLACK								
Men, 16 years and over	5,011	4,879	132	650	390	260	720	106
16 to 19 years	121	111	10	183	143	40	87	73
20 years and over	4,889	4,767	122	467	247	220	633	33
20 to 24 years	594	570	24	134	71	63	173	13
25 years and over	4,297	4,199	98	333	176	157	459	21
25 to 54 years	3,735	3,651	84	223	94	129	423	13
55 years and over	561	548	13	110	82	28	36	8
Women, 16 years and over	4,566	4,463	103	1,082	716	366	692	167
16 to 19 years	105	98	7	179	139	40	79	73
20 years and over	4,462	4,365	97	903	577	326	613	94
20 to 24 years	510	491	19	183	111	72	174	37
25 years and over	3,952	3,874	78	720	466	254	439	57
25 to 54 years	3,544	3,476	68	520	314	206	420	48
55 years and over	407	398	9	200	152	48	19	9

[1] Employed persons with a job but not at work are distributed according to whether they usually work full- or part-time.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment and Earnings, January 1988.

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

One widely reported result of the declining youth population has been recruiting difficulties in some retail trade and service industries. The rapid job growth in industries such as eating and drinking places, combined with the declining number of young people available to fill the job openings, has caused labor shortages in some areas of the country. The numerous low-wage, low-skill jobs available in these industries are usually thought of as ideal jobs for many young people, particularly those who desire flexible work schedules and have other sources of support. However, for some youths, particularly those who are not in school and are seeking full-time, higher paying jobs, part-time jobs in retail trade and services may not be acceptable. These young people may prefer to invest their time in more training or job search than in part-time work. Thus, shortages of young workers could occur in such industries even as young people experience difficulty finding full-time employment in other sectors of the economy.

MANUFACTURING

The continuing difficulties in the industrial sector also may have hurt the employment prospects for young workers, despite their population decline. Prior to the recessions of the early 1980s, the manufacturing sector was a major employer of youth, especially out-of-school young men. However, between 1979 and 1986, manufacturing employment declined significantly, dampening the employment opportunities available to young people. The percentage of out-of-school young men working full time in manufacturing fell sharply between October 1979 and October 1986, as shown in the following tabulation:

Age	1979	1986
16 and 17 years	15.1%	6.7%
18 and 19 years	27.0	13.6
20 and 21 years	29.7	22.2
22 to 24 years	28.0	20.8

The disadvantages of young workers, such as lack of experience and training, would have been especially pronounced in manufacturing, where the lack of employment growth created a substantial pool of available older workers. The slow growth in manufacturing employment would have affected young men more than women, because young men made up about two-thirds of the youth work force in manufacturing. This could explain in part why young men were worse off in 1986 relative to their 1979 employment status than were young women.

TABLE 12

EMPLOYED CIVILIANS IN NONAGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES BY SEX, AGE, AND RACE: 1987 ANNUAL AVERAGES
(VERTICAL PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION)

Sex, age, and race	Mining	Construction	Manufacturing			Transportation and public utilities	Wholesale and retail trade	Finance, insurance, and real estate	Services[1]	Public administration
			Total	Durable goods	Nondurable goods					
TOTAL										
Total, 16 years and over	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
16 to 19 years	1.2	4.3	2.4	1.9	3.0	1.7	14.6	2.8	4.2	1.5
20 to 24 years	5.7	13.5	10.3	9.8	11.0	8.6	16.8	13.7	11.0	6.7
25 years and over	93.0	82.2	87.3	88.3	86.0	89.7	68.6	83.5	84.9	91.9
WHITE										
Men, 16 years and over	80.7	82.9	58.9	64.7	50.4	62.0	46.5	36.8	34.0	49.8
16 to 19 years	0.9	3.7	1.3	1.2	1.5	1.0	6.3	0.7	1.6	0.5
20 to 24 years	4.4	11.5	5.8	6.2	5.3	4.8	7.3	3.3	3.6	2.8
25 years and over	75.4	67.8	51.7	57.3	43.8	56.2	32.9	32.8	28.9	46.7
Women, 16 years and over	13.0	8.3	27.6	23.3	33.8	22.1	42.2	52.5	51.7	32.3
16 to 19 years	0.1	0.3	0.7	0.5	1.0	0.5	6.6	1.9	2.1	0.6
20 to 24 years	0.7	1.0	3.2	2.5	4.1	2.4	7.3	8.7	5.8	2.5
25 years and over	12.0	7.0	23.7	20.2	28.7	19.1	28.3	41.9	43.8	29.2
BLACK										
Men, 16 years and over	2.7	6.8	6.3	6.1	6.6	9.3	4.2	2.8	3.9	7.1
16 to 19 years	*	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.6	0.1	0.2	0.1
20 to 24 years	0.2	0.6	0.8	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.4	0.5	0.6
25 years and over	2.4	5.8	5.8	5.4	5.7	8.4	2.7	2.4	3.1	6.4
Women, 16 years and over	1.1	0.4	4.0	2.6	6.0	4.0	3.8	5.0	7.3	7.5
16 to 19 years	0.1	*	0.1	*	0.1	*	0.7	0.2	0.2	0.2
20 to 24 years	*	0.1	0.4	0.2	0.6	0.4	0.8	0.9	0.7	0.7
25 years and over	1.0	0.3	3.5	2.4	5.2	3.6	2.2	4.0	6.4	6.7

Note: Percentages may not add due to rounding.

[1] Excluding private households.

* Indicates less than .05 percent.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment and Earnings, January 1988.

OCCUPATION

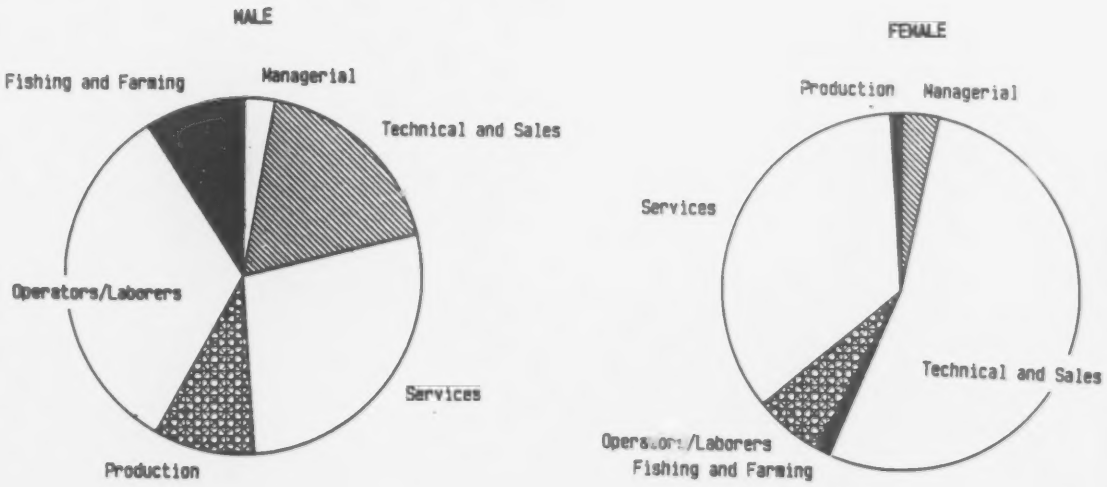
Teenagers (16 to 19 years old) tend to be confined to unskilled and lower skilled jobs. Over half of the employed teens were working in service and operator, fabricator, or laborer occupations in both 1986 and 1987.

TABLE 13
PERCENT OF U.S. EMPLOYED CIVILIANS 16 TO 19 YEARS OLD BY OCCUPATION AND SEX
1986-1987 ANNUAL AVERAGES

Occupation	Total		Men		Women	
	1986	1987	1986	1987	1986	1987
Total (in thousands)	6,472	6,640	3,323	3,381	3,150	3,260
Percent Distribution						
Managerial and professional specialty	2.9%	3.2%	2.3%	2.8%	3.6%	3.6%
Technical, sales, and administrative support	35.1	35.3	17.8	18.4	53.3	52.9
Service occupations	31.1	31.3	27.6	27.7	34.8	35.0
Precision production, craft, and repair	5.7	5.1	10.1	9.2	1.0	0.9
Operators, fabricators, and laborers	19.7	19.8	32.9	32.9	5.8	6.3
Farming and fishing	5.4	5.3	9.2	9.0	1.4	1.4

GRAPH 3

PERCENT OF EMPLOYED TEENAGERS BY OCCUPATION
1987



Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment and Earnings, January 1988.

NOT IN THE LABOR FORCE

The following table shows the percent of youth who have chosen not to enter the labor force. For teenagers and young adult men, the reason for not entering the labor force is primarily school attendance. For young adult women, the reason given for not entering the labor force is primarily keeping house.

TABLE 14
JOB DESIRE OF PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOR FORCE BY AGE AND SEX
NATIONAL DATA FOR 1988 ANNUAL AVERAGES

(In thousands)

	Total		Age			
			16 to 19 years		20 to 24 years	
	1988		1988		1988	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
MEN						
Total not in labor force . .	20,930	100.0	3,144	100.0	1,337	100.0
Do not want a job now . . .	18,985	90.7	2,549	81.1	1,075	80.4
Current activity:						
Going to school.	3,186	15.2	2,086	66.3	768	57.4
Ill, disabled.	2,290	10.9	24	0.8	86	6.4
Keeping house.	438	2.1	24	0.8	11	0.8
Retired.	10,575	50.5	0	0.0	0	0.0
Other activity	2,496	11.9	415	13.2	210	15.7
Want a job now.	1,944	9.3	595	18.9	260	19.4
Reason for not looking:						
School attendance. . . .	683	3.3	473	15.0	118	8.8
Ill health, disability .	375	1.8	8	0.3	23	1.7
Think cannot get a job .	438	2.1	55	1.7	62	4.6
Other reasons[1]	448	2.1	59	1.9	57	4.3
WOMEN						
Total not in labor force . .	42,014	100.0	3,352	100.0	2,593	100.0
Do not want a job now . . .	38,586	91.8	2,798	83.5	2,099	80.9
Current activity:						
Going to school.	3,197	7.6	2,045	61.0	659	25.4
Ill, disabled.	2,195	5.2	27	0.8	53	2.0
Keeping house.	24,701	58.8	319	9.5	1,163	44.9
Retired.	6,355	15.1	0	0.0	0	0.0
Other activity	2,138	5.1	407	12.1	224	8.6
Want a job now.	3,429	8.2	552	16.5	494	19.1
Reason for not looking:						
School attendance. . . .	670	1.6	370	11.0	118	4.6
Ill health, disability .	430	1.0	14	0.4	24	0.9
Home responsibilities. .	1,168	2.8	65	1.9	209	8.1
Think cannot get a job .	516	1.2	37	1.1	64	2.5
Other reasons.	645	1.5	66	2.0	79	3.0

[1] Includes small number of men looking for work because of "home responsibilities."

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics,
Employment and Earnings, January 1989.

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

Table 15 shows the extent to which school and work are combined and how participation in these activities varies between a typical school month and the summer. In January 1988, 47 percent of the 16- to 24-year-old population was enrolled in school. About two-fifths of the high school students and half of the full-time college students were in the labor force. Most students were employed only part-time or were looking for part-time jobs; most youth not enrolled in school, as well as those enrolled only part-time, were in the labor force on a full-time basis, with their labor force participation rates rising with the level of their educational attainment.

At the peak of summer (July 1988), only 11.7 percent of the youth were enrolled in school, mostly at the college level. Therefore, the effect of school vacation was to increase sharply, but temporarily, the number of out-of-school youth in the labor force.

The data for January 1989 show patterns similar to those of a year earlier. But despite the fact that the population had decreased as the baby-bust generation continued to replace the baby-boom generation in the 16-24 age group, the size of the student labor force was relatively unchanged, as higher participation rates offset this population decline. Among those not enrolled in school, fewer were employed and slightly more unemployed than a year earlier.

Table 16 provides additional information on the 14 and 15 year old population as well as demographic data. In October 1986, of the 41.1 million people 14 to 24 years old, 54.3 percent or 22.3 million were enrolled in school. This included 7.6 million college students. Those not enrolled in school numbered 18.8 million, 23 percent of which were not high school graduates.

Of the 20.4 million young men 14 to 24 years old, 55.9 percent were enrolled in school, including the 3.7 million enrolled in college. Young women had a lower enrollment rate of 52.7 percent, of which 3.9 million were enrolled in college.

Enrollment rates for white and black youth 14 to 24 years old showed very little difference, 53.9 and 53.5 respectively. College enrollment for white youth was 19 percent compared to 14 percent for black youth. The percentage of youth not enrolled in school showed very little difference between races. Of the 15.6 million white youth not enrolled in school, 22.4 percent were not high school graduates. Of the 2.7 million black youth not enrolled in school, 25.9 percent were not high school graduates.

TABLE 15

EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF PERSONS 16 TO 24 YEARS OLD BY SCHOOL ENROLLMENT STATUS
JANUARY 1988, JULY 1988, AND JANUARY 1989

(Numbers in thousands)

School and employment status	January 1988	July 1988	January 1989
Population, 16 to 24 years	33,226	32,975	32,624
Enrolled in school	15,608	3,862	15,602
Proportion enrolled	47.0%	11.7%	47.8%
In high school	8,351	1,134	8,087
Labor force	3,378	520	3,207
Employed full time	169	121	117
Employed part time	2,654	306	2,593
Unemployed	555	93	497
Looking for full-time work	27	13	27
Looking for part-time work	529	80	470
In college	7,257	2,727	7,515
Full-time students	6,321	1,564	6,622
Labor force	3,135	847	3,479
Employed full time	591	307	691
Employed part time	2,276	482	2,446
Unemployed	267	57	342
Looking for full-time work	41	25	42
Looking for part-time work	226	32	300
Part-time students	936	1,163	894
Labor force	835	962	812
Employed full time	544	476	526
Employed part time	244	423	249
Unemployed	48	63	37
Looking for full-time work	18	22	25
Looking for part-time work	30	41	12
Not enrolled in school	17,618	29,113	17,022
Labor force	14,527	23,018	13,857
Employed	12,699	20,471	12,028
Full time	10,890	14,853	10,444
Part time	1,809	5,618	1,584
Unemployed	1,828	2,547	1,829
Labor force participation rates			
School years completed:			
Less than 4 years high school	64.2%	64.6%	66.6%
High school, 4 years only	85.8	83.6	83.5
College, 1 to 3 years	90.6	90.2	90.7
College, 4 years or more	97.0	92.9	94.5

Source: U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment and Earnings, February 1988, August 1988, and February 1989.

TABLE 16

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT FOR PERSONS 14 TO 24 YEARS OLD BY AGE, SEX, RACE, AND HISPANIC ORIGIN FOR OCTOBER 1986

(Numbers in thousands.) (Civilian noninstitutional population.)

Age, sex, race, and Hispanic Origin	Population	Enrolled in school						Not enrolled in school					
		Total		Below college level[1]		In college		Total		High school graduate		Not high school graduate	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
ALL RACES													
Both Sexes	41,127	22,324	54.3	14,709	35.8	7,613	18.5	18,804	45.7	14,486	35.2	4,318	10.5
14 and 15 years old	7,182	7,007	97.6	6,995	97.4	11	0.2	176	2.4	–	–	176	2.4
16 and 17 years old	7,433	6,861	92.3	6,666	89.6	205	2.8	572	7.7	117	1.6	455	6.1
18 and 19 years old	7,095	3,872	54.6	930	13.1	2,942	41.5	3,223	46.4	2,361	33.1	872	12.3
20 and 21 years old	7,358	2,430	33.0	89	1.2	2,341	31.8	4,928	67.0	3,838	52.2	1,089	14.8
22 to 24 years old	12,059	2,154	17.9	39	0.3	2,114	17.5	9,906	82.1	8,180	67.8	1,726	14.3
Male	20,386	11,398	55.9	7,668	37.6	3,739	18.3	8,996	44.1	6,726	33.0	1,871	9.7
14 and 15 years old	3,686	3,598	97.6	3,595	97.6	3	0.1	87	2.4	–	–	87	2.4
16 and 17 years old	3,788	3,497	92.3	3,410	90.0	87	2.3	291	7.7	44	1.2	247	6.5
18 and 19 years old	3,502	1,988	57.1	584	17.0	1,404	40.1	1,504	42.9	1,045	29.8	459	13.1
20 and 21 years old	3,566	1,191	53.4	39	1.1	1,152	32.3	2,376	66.6	1,794	50.3	581	16.3
22 to 24 years old	5,853	1,114	19.0	20	0.3	1,093	18.7	4,739	81.0	3,843	66.7	897	15.3
Female	20,733	10,926	52.7	7,052	34.0	3,874	18.7	9,807	47.3	7,759	37.4	2,048	9.9
14 and 15 years old	3,497	3,408	97.5	3,401	97.3	8	0.2	88	2.5	–	–	88	2.5
16 and 17 years old	3,645	3,364	92.3	3,245	89.0	119	3.3	281	7.7	72	2.0	209	5.7
18 and 19 years old	3,593	1,874	52.1	337	9.4	1,537	42.8	1,719	47.9	1,306	36.4	413	11.5
20 and 21 years old	3,792	1,238	32.7	50	1.3	1,189	31.4	2,553	67.3	2,044	53.9	509	13.4
22 to 24 years old	6,206	1,040	16.8	19	0.3	1,021	16.5	5,166	83.2	4,337	68.8	828	13.4
WHITE													
Both Sexes	33,886	18,267	53.9	11,832	34.9	6,426	19.0	15,620	46.1	12,122	35.8	3,497	10.3
14 and 15 years old	5,806	5,677	97.8	5,668	97.6	9	0.2	129	2.2	–	–	129	2.2
16 and 17 years old	6,072	5,587	93.0	5,408	89.1	179	2.8	485	8.0	91	1.5	394	6.5
18 and 19 years old	5,825	3,192	54.8	669	11.5	2,523	43.3	2,633	45.2	1,940	33.3	693	11.9
20 and 21 years old	6,090	2,042	33.5	55	0.9	1,987	32.6	4,048	66.5	3,176	52.1	873	14.3
22 to 24 years old	10,093	1,769	17.4	32	0.3	1,728	17.1	8,334	82.6	6,926	68.6	1,408	13.9
Male	16,679	9,337	56.3	6,132	36.3	3,206	19.0	7,642	44.7	5,661	33.7	1,882	11.0
14 and 15 years old	2,974	2,908	97.8	2,904	97.7	3	0.1	66	2.2	–	–	66	2.2
16 and 17 years old	3,102	2,850	91.9	2,775	89.5	76	2.4	252	8.1	37	1.2	215	6.9
18 and 19 years old	2,885	1,653	57.2	412	14.3	1,241	43.0	1,236	42.8	866	30.0	370	12.8
20 and 21 years old	2,962	999	33.7	24	0.8	975	32.9	1,963	66.3	1,493	50.4	470	15.9
22 to 24 years old	4,953	927	18.7	17	0.3	911	18.4	4,026	81.3	3,286	66.3	741	15.0
Female	17,007	8,921	52.5	5,699	33.5	3,221	18.9	8,086	47.5	6,461	37.9	1,635	9.6
14 and 15 years old	2,832	2,769	97.8	2,763	97.6	6	0.2	63	2.2	–	–	63	2.2
16 and 17 years old	2,970	2,737	93.1	2,633	88.7	103	3.5	233	7.9	54	1.8	178	6.0
18 and 19 years old	2,837	1,540	52.4	257	8.8	1,283	43.7	1,397	47.6	1,074	36.6	323	11.0
20 and 21 years old	3,128	1,043	33.3	31	1.0	1,012	32.3	2,085	66.7	1,682	53.8	403	12.9
22 to 24 years old	5,140	832	16.2	15	0.3	817	15.9	4,308	83.8	3,641	70.8	667	13.0

TABLE 18, continued
SCHOOL ENROLLMENT FOR PERSONS 14 TO 24 YEARS OLD BY AGE, SEX, RACE, AND HISPANIC ORIGIN FOR OCTOBER 1986

(Numbers in thousands.) (Civilian noninstitutional population.)

Age, sex, race, and Hispanic Origin	Population	Enrolled in school						Not enrolled in school					
		Total		Below college level[1]		In college		Total		High school graduate		Not high school graduate	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
BLACK													
Both Sexes	6,872	3,141	53.5	2,320	39.5	820	14.0	2,730	46.5	2,023	34.5	707	12.0
14 and 15 years old	1,117	1,079	96.6	1,077	96.4	2	0.2	38	3.4	–	–	38	3.4
16 and 17 years old	1,090	1,015	93.2	998	91.6	17	1.6	76	6.8	23	2.1	52	4.7
18 and 19 years old	1,048	518	49.4	211	20.1	306	29.3	530	50.6	374	35.7	156	14.8
20 and 21 years old	1,044	268	25.7	28	2.8	238	22.9	776	74.3	587	56.2	189	18.1
22 to 24 years old	1,573	261	16.6	5	0.3	256	16.3	1,311	83.4	1,039	66.1	272	17.3
Male	2,810	1,568	55.8	1,219	43.4	350	12.5	1,240	44.1	891	31.7	351	12.5
14 and 15 years old	563	547	97.0	547	97.0	–	–	17	3.0	–	–	17	3.0
16 and 17 years old	548	515	94.1	506	92.3	10	1.8	32	5.9	6	1.2	26	4.7
18 and 19 years old	506	287	56.8	149	29.5	118	23.4	238	47.1	165	32.6	74	14.6
20 and 21 years old	478	122	25.6	13	2.8	109	22.8	356	74.4	262	54.7	95	19.8
22 to 24 years old	714	117	16.4	4	0.6	113	15.8	597	83.6	458	64.2	139	19.4
Female	3,061	1,573	51.4	1,101	36.0	471	15.4	1,488	48.6	1,132	37.0	356	11.7
14 and 15 years old	553	532	96.2	530	95.8	2	0.3	21	3.8	–	–	21	3.8
16 and 17 years old	542	500	92.2	492	90.8	8	1.4	42	7.8	17	3.1	26	4.7
18 and 19 years old	542	250	46.2	62	11.5	188	34.7	292	53.8	209	38.6	83	15.2
20 and 21 years old	565	146	25.8	16	2.8	130	23.0	418	74.2	326	57.5	94	16.7
22 to 24 years old	859	145	16.8	1	0.1	143	16.7	714	83.2	581	67.6	134	15.6
HISPANIC ORIGIN[2]													
Both Sexes	3,867	1,800	46.5	1,346	34.8	455	11.8	2,066	53.4	1,074	27.8	991	25.6
14 and 15 years old	661	636	96.3	634	96.0	2	0.3	25	3.7	–	–	25	3.7
16 and 17 years old	693	581	83.8	571	82.3	10	1.5	112	16.2	11	1.7	101	14.5
18 and 19 years old	614	278	45.3	113	18.4	165	26.9	336	54.7	171	27.9	164	26.8
20 and 21 years old	760	160	21.1	20	2.6	140	18.5	599	78.9	334	44.0	265	34.9
22 to 24 years old	1,139	145	12.8	8	0.7	138	12.1	994	87.2	558	49.0	436	38.2

– Represents zero or rounds to zero.

[1]Includes nursery school, kindergarten, and grades 1 to 12.
[2]May be of any race.

Source: "School Enrollment-Social and Economic Characteristics of Students: October 1986", Current Population Reports, Series P-20: No. 420.

Table 17 lists school enrollment rates for youth 14 to 24 years of age by race, Hispanic origin, and region. In each age group listed, the southern region has the lowest enrollment rates, while the northeast has the highest. The southern region enrollment rate for young adults 18 to 24 years old is 28.6 percent compared to 31.9 percent in the United States and 36.0 percent in the northeast. Enrollment rates for white and black young adults 18 to 24 years old showed very little difference, 28.7 and 26.8 percent respectively. Of the 14- to 17-year-old age group, blacks had a higher enrollment rate than whites, 95.0 percent compared to 92.5 percent respectively.

TABLE 17
ENROLLMENT RATES FOR PERSONS 14 TO 24 YEARS OLD BY RACE, HISPANIC ORIGIN, AND REGION: OCTOBER 1986

(Numbers in thousands. Civilian noninstitutional population.)

Age and race	U.S. enrollment		Northeast enrollment		Midwest[1] enrollment		South enrollment		West enrollment	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All races										
14 to 17.	13,868	94.9%	2,845	96.2%	3,331	95.6%	4,912	93.2%	2,780	95.8%
18 to 24.	8,456	31.9	1,980	36.0	2,129	32.7	2,650	28.6	1,697	32.5
White										
14 to 17.	11,264	94.8	2,437	96.2	2,895	95.9	3,586	92.5	2,346	95.8
18 to 24.	6,994	31.8	1,718	35.7	1,868	32.6	2,010	28.7	1,398	31.3
Black										
14 to 17.	2,094	94.9	357	96.0	379	93.6	1,211	95.0	146	95.1
18 to 24.	1,047	28.6	190	32.7	191	28.2	563	26.8	103	33.5
Hispanic Origin[2]										
14 to 17.	1,217	89.9	235	96.2	84	92.8	373	85.2	525	90.3
18 to 24.	584	23.2	135	31.8	49	26.2	194	23.6	207	19.1

[1]Formerly North Central.
[2]May be of any race.

Source: "School Enrollment-Social and Economic Characteristics of Students: October 1986", Current Population Reports, Series P-20: No. 429.

TRENDS IN COLLEGE ENROLLMENT

Demographic changes have had a significant influence on college enrollment. Beginning in the late 1960s, increases in the young college-age population, brought about by the maturing of the baby boom cohort, contributed substantially to the increased college student population. As that cohort (born 1947 to 1961) began to move out of the traditional college ages, to be replaced by smaller cohorts, it was popularly expected that college enrollment would decrease. It has not happened.

The total number of college students in 1986 was not significantly different from that in any year since 1981. (See Table 18.) This stability can be attributed, in part, to the increased enrollment of older students (25 years old and over) who increased by 11 percent from 1981 to 1986, which resulted primarily from the increase in the older population. The number of younger students enrolled did not change significantly, because enrollment rates increased concurrently with the population decline. Since 1981, the 18- to 24-year-old population declined by about 2.5 million persons, but the number

TABLE 18
AGE DISTRIBUTION OF COLLEGE STUDENTS 14 YEARS AND OVER: OCTOBER 1960 TO 1986

(Numbers in thousands.) (Civilian noninstitutional population.)

	Total, 14 years old and over		14 to 17 years old		18 to 19 years old		20 to 21 years old		22 to 24 years old		25 years and over	
Year	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1986	12,401	100.0	216	1.7	2,942	23.7	2,341	18.9	2,114	17.0	4,788	38.6
1985	12,524	100.0	262	2.1	2,907	23.2	2,616	20.9	2,014	16.1	4,725	37.7
1984	12,304	100.0	253	2.1	2,867	23.3	2,597	21.1	2,127	17.3	4,460	36.2
1983	12,320	100.0	260	2.1	2,940	23.9	2,495	20.3	2,042	16.6	4,583	37.2
1982	12,308	100.0	254	2.1	2,929	23.8	2,689	21.8	2,060	16.7	4,376	35.6
1981[1]	12,127	100.0	232	1.9	3,044	25.1	2,545	21.0	1,986	16.4	4,320	35.6
1980	11,387	100.0	249	2.2	2,933	25.8	2,423	21.3	1,870	16.4	3,912	34.4
1979	11,380	100.0	311	2.7	2,844	25.0	2,353	20.7	1,794	15.8	4,078	35.8
1978	11,141	100.0	274	2.5	2,899	26.0	2,298	20.6	1,798	16.1	3,872	34.8
1977	11,546	100.0	274	2.4	2,913	25.2	2,430	21.0	1,799	15.6	4,130	35.8
1976	11,139	100.0	281	2.5	2,937	26.4	2,398	21.5	1,846	16.6	3,677	33.0
1975	10,880	100.0	293	2.7	2,943	27.0	2,313	21.3	1,679	15.4	3,652	33.6
1974	9,852	100.0	309	3.1	2,597	26.4	2,192	22.2	1,527	15.5	3,227	32.8
1973	8,966	100.0	295	3.3	2,517	28.1	2,073	23.1	1,465	16.3	2,616	29.2
1972	9,096	100.0	295	3.2	2,680	29.5	2,116	23.3	1,461	16.1	2,544	28.0
1971[2]	8,087	100.0	284	3.5	2,726	33.7	1,997	24.7	1,487	18.4	1,593	19.7
1970[2]	7,413	100.0	260	3.5	2,594	35.0	1,857	25.1	1,354	18.3	1,348	18.2
1965[2]	5,675	100.0	264	4.7	2,215	39.0	1,326	23.4	940	16.6	930	16.4
1960[2]	3,570	100.0	222	6.2	1,299	36.4	790	22.1	509	14.3	750	21.0

[1]Controlled to 1980 census-based population estimates.
[2]Data from 1960 to 1971 are for persons 14 to 34 years old.

Source: "School Enrollment-Social and Economic Characteristics of Students: October 1986", Current Population Reports, Series P-20: No. 429.

TABLE 19

PERSONS 14 TO 24 YEARS OLD BY HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION STATUS, COLLEGE ENROLLMENT, ATTAINMENT, RACE, AND HISPANIC ORIGIN: OCTOBER 1967 TO 1986

(Numbers in thousands.) (Civilian noninstitutional population.)

Race and year	Persons 16 to 24 years old						High school graduates, 16 to 24 years old		
		High school graduates		Percent				Percent	
	All persons	Total	Enrolled in college	High school graduates	Enrolled in college	Of high school graduates enrolled in college	All graduates	Enrolled in college	Enrolled or completed 1 or more years
ALL RACES									
1986	26,612	21,766	7,397	82.1%	27.9%	34.0%	22,090	34.4%	64.8%
1985	27,122	22,349	7,537	82.4	27.8	33.7	22,721	34.3	64.3
1984	26,831	22,070	7,691	81.6	27.1	33.2	23,262	33.7	63.0
1983	26,589	22,088	7,477	80.4	26.2	32.6	23,360	33.1	62.8
1982	26,846	23,291	7,678	80.7	26.6	33.0	23,706	33.6	62.7
1981	26,965	23,343	7,576	80.6	26.2	32.6	23,706	32.9	61.7
1980[1]	26,967	23,413	7,400	80.8	26.6	31.6	23,866	32.1	61.1
1979	27,974	22,421	6,991	80.1	25.0	31.2	22,911	31.9	61.6
1978	27,647	22,309	6,995	80.7	25.3	31.4	22,759	31.9	61.4
1977	27,331	22,008	7,142	80.5	26.1	32.5	22,498	33.0	62.0
1976	26,919	21,677	7,181	80.5	26.7	33.1	22,168	33.7	63.4
1975	26,387	21,326	6,936	80.8	26.3	32.5	21,824	33.1	62.6
1974	26,670	20,726	6,318	80.7	24.6	30.5	21,267	31.2	61.3
1973	26,237	20,377	6,055	80.7	24.0	29.7	20,896	30.4	60.7
1972	24,579	19,618	6,267	79.8	25.5	31.9	20,107	32.6	62.9
1971	23,668	18,691	6,210	79.0	26.2	33.2	19,130	33.9	63.1
1970	22,662	17,768	5,806	78.8	25.7	32.7	18,218	33.5	62.3
1969	21,362	16,703	5,840	78.2	27.3	35.6	17,162	35.7	62.5
1968	20,562	16,083	5,366	78.3	26.0	34.2	16,165	35.2	61.5
1967	20,009	15,114	5,100	75.5	25.5	33.7	15,642	34.9	60.5
WHITE									
1986	22,006	18,278	6,238	83.1	28.3	34.1	18,558	34.6	66.3
1985	22,632	18,916	6,500	83.6	28.7	34.4	19,228	35.0	65.3
1984	23,347	19,373	6,256	83.0	28.0	33.7	19,886	34.2	63.8
1983	23,898	19,643	6,463	82.2	27.0	32.8	19,946	33.6	63.4
1982	24,206	19,944	6,694	82.4	27.2	33.1	20,292	33.6	63.1
1981	24,486	20,123	6,548	82.2	26.7	32.6	20,438	33.0	62.1
1980[1]	24,482	20,214	6,423	82.6	26.2	31.8	20,583	32.3	61.4
1979	23,895	19,616	6,120	82.1	25.6	31.2	20,033	31.8	61.7
1978	23,660	19,526	6,077	82.6	25.7	31.1	19,911	31.7	61.3
1977	23,438	19,201	6,209	82.3	26.5	32.2	19,712	32.6	62.1
1976	23,118	19,045	6,278	82.4	27.1	33.0	19,462	33.5	63.5
1975	22,703	18,683	6,116	83.2	26.9	32.4	19,298	33.0	62.7
1974	22,141	18,318	5,589	82.7	25.2	30.5	18,784	31.2	61.7
1973	21,786	18,023	5,438	82.8	25.0	30.2	18,470	30.8	61.6
1972	21,315	17,410	5,624	81.7	26.4	32.3	17,838	33.0	63.9
1971	20,533	16,693	5,594	81.3	27.2	33.5	17,087	34.2	64.1
1970	19,608	15,960	5,305	81.4	27.1	33.2	16,334	33.9	63.4

TABLE 19, continued

PERSONS 14 TO 24 YEARS OLD BY HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION STATUS, COLLEGE ENROLLMENT, ATTAINMENT, RACE, AND HISPANIC ORIGIN: OCTOBER 1967 TO 1986

(Numbers in thousands.) (Civilian noninstitutional population.)

Race and year	Persons 16 to 24 years old						High school graduates, 16 to 24 years old		
		High school graduates		Percent				Percent	
	All persons	Total	Enrolled in college	High school graduates	Enrolled in college	Of high school graduates enrolled in college	All graduates	Enrolled in college	Enrolled or completed 1 or more years
WHITE continued									
1969	18,606	16,031	5,347	86.6%	28.7%	35.6%	16,383	36.2%	53.5%
1968	17,951	14,127	4,928	78.7	27.5	34.9	14,506	35.7	52.5
1967	17,600	13,667	4,706	76.0	26.9	34.5	14,022	35.2	51.4
BLACK									
1986	3,666	2,801	801	76.4	21.9	28.6	2,844	28.9	47.4
1985	3,716	2,810	734	75.6	19.8	26.1	2,848	26.5	43.8
1984	3,862	2,886	786	74.7	20.4	27.2	2,950	28.0	46.2
1983	3,866	2,740	741	70.9	19.2	27.0	2,790	27.7	46.0
1982	3,872	2,744	767	70.9	19.8	28.0	2,783	28.2	46.5
1981	3,778	2,678	750	70.9	19.9	28.0	2,718	28.7	44.8
1980[1]	3,721	2,592	716	69.7	19.2	27.6	2,656	28.1	46.9
1979	3,610	2,366	686	67.1	19.0	29.6	2,416	30.6	48.4
1978	3,462	2,340	684	67.6	20.1	29.7	2,396	30.6	47.8
1977	3,387	2,286	721	67.5	21.3	31.6	2,342	32.4	46.9
1976	3,316	2,239	749	67.5	22.6	33.6	2,291	34.2	50.4
1975	3,213	2,081	666	64.8	20.7	32.0	2,149	32.6	48.1
1974	3,105	2,083	566	67.1	17.9	26.6	2,145	27.6	44.6
1973	3,114	2,079	498	66.6	16.0	24.0	2,139	26.0	41.6
1972	2,986	1,992	540	66.7	18.1	27.1	2,044	28.0	42.0
1971	2,866	1,788	522	62.4	18.2	29.2	1,833	30.0	42.3
1970	2,892	1,602	416	59.5	15.5	26.0	1,636	26.7	39.4
1969	2,642	1,497	407	56.9	15.8	27.2	1,547	27.5	40.1
1968	2,421	1,399	352	57.8	14.5	25.2	1,432	26.0	36.1
1967	2,283	1,276	297	55.9	13.0	23.3	1,316	23.7	36.0
HISPANIC ORIGIN[2]									
1986	2,813	1,606	443	59.9	17.6	29.4	1,631	29.8	45.0
1985	2,221	1,396	376	62.8	16.9	26.9	1,419	27.6	46.7
1984	2,018	1,212	362	60.1	17.9	29.9	1,223	30.0	46.0
1983	2,026	1,110	348	54.8	17.2	31.4	1,134	32.3	48.4
1982	2,001	1,163	337	57.6	16.8	29.2	1,173	30.0	47.3
1981	2,052	1,144	342	55.8	16.7	29.9	1,166	30.5	45.8
1980[1]	2,033	1,099	327	54.1	16.1	29.8	1,117	30.1	47.3

[1]Data for 1980 and all later years use 1980 census-based estimates.
[2]May be of any race.

Note: High school graduates are persons who have completed 4 years of high school or more.

Source: "School Enrollment-Social and Economic Characteristics of Students: October 1986", Current Population Reports, Series P-20: No. 429.

of college students of that age did not change significantly. The proportion of the age group enrolled in college rose 2 percentage points, to 28 percent, from 1981 to 1986. Even in the 18- and 19-year-old age group, whose population declined by 13 percent since 1981, the number enrolled in 1986 was not different from that in any year since 1975.

The college enrollment rate of high school graduates did not change significantly in the last decade. Table 19 shows that the proportion of 18- to 24-year-old high school graduates enrolled in college (34 percent) was not significantly different from the proportion enrolled in 1976. For blacks, on the other hand, the proportion declined to 28.6 percent in 1986, from 33.5 percent 10 years earlier. Much of the decrease for blacks can be attributed to the increase in the proportion of youth completing high school but not a concurrent rise in the proportion of the age group attending college.

Among young undergraduates (under 25 years old), 62 percent of whites and 65 percent of blacks (not significantly different from each other) but only 45 percent of Hispanics were full-time students in four-year institutions. Larger shares of Hispanics than whites or blacks attended two-year colleges and attended college on a part-time basis in October 1986. (See Table 20.) About 44 percent of Hispanic undergraduates, compared with 29 percent of whites and 25 percent of blacks, attended two-year colleges. The proportions of Hispanic, white, and black undergraduates attending part-time were 28, 16, and 14 percent, respectively.

TABLE 20

COLLEGE STUDENTS 14 TO 24 YEARS OLD BY LEVEL, TYPE OF COLLEGE, FULL-TIME STATUS, RACE, AND HISPANIC ORIGIN: OCTOBER 1986

(Numbers in thousands.)

Status, race and Hispanic origin	All students	Undergraduates					Graduate students
		Total	Percent				
			Total	2-year college	4-year college	Not reported	
All races	7,613	7,038	100.0	28.2	68.7	3.1	575
Full-time	6,360	5,908	83.9	18.4	62.9	2.6	452
Part-time	1,254	1,129	16.0	9.8	5.8	0.5	124
White	6,426	5,930	100.0	29.1	67.9	3.0	496
Full-time	5,355	4,961	83.7	18.9	62.2	2.5	393
Part-time	1,072	969	16.3	10.2	5.6	0.6	102
Black	820	776	100.0	24.7	71.3	3.9	45
Full-time	699	671	86.5	17.3	65.2	3.9	28
Part-time	123	107	13.8	7.5	6.1	-	16
Hispanic[1]	455	438	100.0	43.6	53.4	3.0	17
Full-time	330	317	72.4	25.1	44.5	2.5	13
Part-time	126	122	27.9	18.5	8.9	0.5	4

[1]May be of any race.

Source: "School Enrollment-Social and Economic Characteristics of Students: October 1986", Current Population Reports, Series P-20: No. 429.

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT IN 1987

Table 21 shows the educational attainment in 1987 of the youth population 15 to 24 years old by age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin. The proportion of young women completing high school (57.8 percent) is slightly higher than it is for young men (52.9 percent). The greatest difference between sexes occurred in the 18- to 19-year-old age group; 65 percent of the females and 54 percent of the males were high school graduates.

Differences between white and black young adults are much more substantial than those across gender. While 56.7 percent of the white youth have completed high school, the same is true for 48.4 percent of the black youth. For 18- to 19-year-old youth, 61.8 percent of the white youth and 47.5 percent of the black youth were high school graduates.

At the college level, differences are also evident for youth 15 to 24 years old; 5.7 percent of the whites and 2.6 percent of the blacks had completed four or more years of college. One in ten white young adults 20 to 24 years old completed four or more years of college while the same is true for one out of 20 black young adults of the same age.

The median years of school completed for black males 15 to 24 years old was 11.6 compared to 12.1 for black females 15 to 25 years old. The median years of school completed for youth 15 to 24 years old was higher for females no matter what race.

The educational attainment of Hispanic youths was considerably lower than that for white or black youths. About two-fifths (41.1 percent) of Hispanics aged 15 to 24 years had completed high school, and 2.3 percent had finished four or more years of college.

Table 22 shows the educational attainment for all householders and family householders 15 to 24 years old. The percent of female family householders who completed high school was 67.3 percent compared to 80.1 percent of the males. The educational attainment for family householders was lower than for all householders no matter what the sex or race.

Table 23 shows the educational attainment in 1987 of the youth population 15 to 24 years old in the nation by age and region. In the 15- to 19-year-old age group, 24.2 percent were high school graduates while in the 20- to 24-year-old age group, 84.7 percent were high school graduates. Comparing regions, the south had the lowest percentage of high school graduates in both the 15 to 19 and 20- to 24-year-old-age groups. The southern region also had the lowest median school years completed; 10.5 years for persons 15 to 19 years old and 12.7 for persons 20 to 24 years old.

The percentage of persons 20 to 24 years old who had completed four or more years of college is highest in the northeast (12.8 percent) and lowest in the west (8.8 percent).

TABLE 21

YEARS OF SCHOOL COMPLETED BY PERSONS 15 TO 24 YEARS OLD, BY SEX, RACE, AND HISPANIC ORIGIN: MARCH 1987

(Numbers in thousands.) (Noninstitutional population.)

Age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin	Total persons	Years of school completed							Median school years completed	Percent		
		Elementary		High School		College				High school graduate	College 1 year or more	College 4 years or more
		0 to 7 years	8 years	1 to 3 years	4 years	1 to 3 years	4 years	5 years or more				
ALL RACES												
Both sexes	37,545	1,153	2,393	13,207	11,498	7,314	1,720	258	NA	55.4	24.7	5.3
15 to 17 years old	11,082	625	1,929	8,355	146	28	–	–	9.8	1.8	0.2	–
18 to 19 years old	7,105	108	127	2,840	3,284	859	6	–	12.2	59.5	13.8	0.1
20 to 24 years old	19,358	420	337	2,212	8,068	6,329	1,714	258	12.8	84.7	42.9	10.2
Male	18,691	897	1.314	6,784	5,505	3,462	783	140	12.1	52.9	23.5	4.9
15 to 17 years old	5,662	393	1,053	4 140	58	17	–	–	9.7	1.3	0.3	–
18 to 19 years old	3,530	75	79	1,471	1,507	395	–	–	12.1	53.9	11.2	–
20 to 24 years old	9,499	229	182	1,173	3,940	3,050	783	140	12.8	83.3	41.8	9.7
Female	18,852	453	1,079	6,422	5,992	3,819	937	118	12.2	57.8	26.0	5.8
15 to 17 years old	5,419	231	876	4,214	88	9	–	–	9.9	1.8	0.2	–
18 to 19 years old	3,574	32	48	1,169	1,756	561	6	–	12.3	65.0	15.9	0.2
20 to 24 years old	9,859	190	155	1,039	4,148	3,278	931	118	12.9	86.0	43.9	10.6
WHITE												
Both sexes	31,044	857	1,941	10,853	9,817	6,193	1,549	232	NA	58.7	25.7	5.7
15 to 17 years old	9,043	428	1,542	6,922	125	28	–	–	9.9	1.7	0.3	–
18 to 19 years old	5,838	81	99	2,047	2,794	812	3	–	12.2	61.8	14.0	–
20 to 24 years old	16,163	348	300	1,884	6,898	5,355	1,548	232	12.9	85.6	44.1	11.0
Male	15,533	518	1,066	5,508	4,679	2,934	707	123	12.1	54.4	24.2	5.3
15 to 17 years old	4,628	281	835	3,466	50	17	–	–	9.8	1.4	0.4	–
18 to 19 years old	2,804	55	81	1,145	1,298	343	–	–	12.1	56.5	11.8	–
20 to 24 years old	8,001	200	170	897	3,331	2,574	707	123	12.1	84.2	42.5	10.4
Female	15,511	342	875	5,143	4,838	3,259	842	109	12.3	59.0	27.1	6.1
15 to 17 years old	4,415	187	707	3,455	75	9	–	–	9.9	1.9	0.2	–
18 to 19 years old	2,934	27	38	902	1,496	469	3	–	12.3	67.1	16.1	0.1
20 to 24 years old	8,162	148	130	786	3,367	2,781	839	109	12.9	87.0	45.7	11.6

TABLE 21, continued

YEARS OF SCHOOL COMPLETED BY PERSONS 15 TO 24 YEARS OLD, BY SEX, RACE, AND HISPANIC ORIGIN: MARCH 1987

(Numbers in thousands.) (Noninstitutional population.)

Age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin	Total persons	Years of school completed							Median school years completed	Percent		
		Elementary		High School		College				High school graduate	College 1 year or more	College 4 years or more
		0 to 7 years	8 years	1 to 3 years	4 years	1 to 3 years	4 years	5 years or more				
BLACK												
Both sexes	5,340	256	382	2,099	1,618	823	129	12	NA	48.4	18.1	2.8
15 to 17 years old	1,677	178	322	1,135	21	–	–	–	9.7	1.2	–	–
18 to 19 years old	1,041	23	26	498	378	116	–	–	11.9	47.5	11.2	–
20 to 24 years old	2,622	54	34	466	1,219	707	129	12	12.6	78.8	32.3	5.4
Male	2,553	182	202	1,058	899	369	61	3	11.8	44.4	17.0	2.5
15 to 17 years old	845	122	174	540	8	–	–	–	9.5	1.0	–	–
18 to 19 years old	499	19	15	273	159	35	–	–	11.7	38.6	8.9	–
20 to 24 years old	1,209	21	13	245	532	334	61	3	12.6	77.0	33.0	5.4
Female	2,788	95	180	1,061	920	456	68	8	12.1	52.0	19.1	2.7
15 to 17 years old	832	57	148	614	13	–	–	–	9.8	1.5	–	–
18 to 19 years old	541	4	10	225	220	83	–	–	12.1	55.7	15.2	–
20 to 24 years old	1,413	34	22	222	687	373	68	8	12.6	80.4	31.8	5.4
HISPANIC ORIGIN[1]												
Both sexes	3,655	408	398	1,348	958	464	70	13	NA	41.1	15.0	2.3
15 to 17 years old	993	108	249	618	15	3	–	–	9.5	1.8	0.3	–
18 to 19 years old	665	48	41	292	227	54	3	–	11.7	42.7	8.8	0.5
20 to 24 years old	1,997	252	108	438	714	407	67	13	12.3	60.1	24.3	4.0

A dash (–) represents zero or rounds to zero.

[1]May be of any race.

Source: "Educational Attainment in the United States: March 1987 and 1986", Current Population Reports, Series P-20, No. 428.

TABLE 22

YEARS OF SCHOOL COMPLETED BY ALL HOUSEHOLDERS AND FAMILY HOUSEHOLDERS 15 TO 24 YEARS OLD, BY SEX, RACE, AND HISPANIC ORIGIN: MARCH 1987

(Numbers in thousands.) (Noninstitutional population.)

	Total persons	Years of school completed								Median school years completed	Percent high school graduates
		Elementary			High school		College				
		0 to 4 years	5 to 7 years	8 years	1 to 3 years	4 years	1 to 3 years	4 years	5 years or more		
ALL HOUSEHOLDERS											
All Races											
Male	3,083	20	55	50	410	1,437	764	272	75	12.7	82.6
Female	2,114	7	33	43	325	899	526	239	42	12.7	80.7
White											
Male	2,768	20	52	45	374	1,299	647	260	69	12.7	82.2
Female	1,628	7	22	37	207	675	422	219	38	12.8	83.2
Black											
Male	233	-	3	4	24	119	72	11	-	12.7	86.7
Female	437	-	10	5	110	206	85	19	3	12.5	71.6
Hispanic Origin[1]											
Male	325	17	45	19	74	103	52	8	6	12.1	52.0
Female	199	7	12	15	68	66	22	7	2	11.9	48.7
FAMILY HOUSEHOLDERS											
All Races											
Male	1,839	12	46	34	274	933	401	99	40	12.6	80.1
Female	1,100	7	32	33	288	529	163	39	9	12.4	67.3
White											
Male	1,678	12	43	33	259	843	354	94	38	12.6	79.2
Female	734	7	22	29	180	354	103	33	5	12.4	67.4
Black											
Male	135	-	3	-	14	78	36	5	-	12.6	88.1
Female	339	-	9	3	102	165	52	6	3	12.3	68.7
Hispanic Origin[1]											
Male	238	10	39	15	54	80	32	7	-	12.0	50.0
Female	158	7	12	15	62	48	11	2	1	11.2	39.2

[1]Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race.

Source: "Educational Attainment in the United States: March 1987 and 1986", Current Population Reports, Series P-20, No. 428.

TABLE 23

YEARS OF SCHOOL COMPLETED BY PERSONS 15 TO 24 YEARS OLD, BY AGE AND REGION: MARCH 1987

(Numbers in thousands.)

(Noninstitutional population.)

Age and Region	Total persons	Elementary		High school		College		Median school years completed	Percent	
		0 to 7 years	8 years	1 to 3 years	4 years	1 to 3 years	4 years or more		High school graduates	College, 4 years or more
UNITED STATES										
Total, 15 years old and over	186,688	10,906	10,882	30,626	69,167	32,791	31,617	12.6	71.5	16.9
15 to 19 years old	18,186	733	2,056	10,996	3,410	983	6	10.7	24.2	–
20 to 24 years old	19,358	420	337	2,212	8,088	6,329	1,972	12.8	84.7	10.2
25 years old and over	149,144	10,353	8,588	17,417	57,669	25,479	29,637	12.7	75.6	19.9
NORTHEAST										
Total, 15 years old and over	39,739	2,112	2,355	6,259	15,084	6,301	7,629	12.6	73.0	19.2
15 to 19 years old	3,656	109	352	2,236	714	244	1	10.8	26.2	–
20 to 24 years old	4,053	57	49	409	1,654	1,365	518	12.9	87.3	12.8
25 years old and over	32,030	1,946	1,953	3,613	12,716	4,691	7,110	12.7	76.5	22.2
MIDWEST[1]										
Total, 15 years old and over	45,356	1,522	3,006	7,442	18,768	7,729	6,889	12.6	73.6	15.2
15 to 19 years old	4,332	120	473	2,679	829	232	–	10.7	24.5	–
20 to 24 years old	4,702	31	56	416	2,038	1,669	491	12.9	89.3	10.4
25 years old and over	36,322	1,370	2,478	4,347	15,901	5,828	6,398	12.6	77.4	17.6
SOUTH										
Total, 15 years old and over	64,045	5,791	3,874	11,474	22,646	10,361	9,899	12.5	67.0	15.5
15 to 19 years old	6,601	388	818	3,879	1,182	334	–	10.5	23.0	–
20 to 24 years old	6,596	148	158	910	2,793	1,976	610	12.7	81.6	9.3
25 years old and over	50,848	5,255	2,898	6,685	18,671	8,050	9,289	12.6	70.8	18.3
WEST										
Total, 15 years old and over	37,547	2,082	1,747	5,450	12,669	8,401	7,198	12.7	75.3	19.2
15 to 19 years old	3,597	117	414	2,202	686	173	6	10.6	24.0	0.2
20 to 24 years old	4,008	183	74	477	1,603	1,319	354	12.8	81.7	8.8
25 years old and over	29,943	1,781	1,259	2,772	10,381	6,909	6,840	12.9	80.6	22.8

A dash (–) represents zero or rounds to zero.

[1] Formerly North Central.

Source: "Educational Attainment in the United States: March 1987 and 1986", Current Population Reports, Series P-20, No.428.

HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUTS

In October 1986, there were about 4 million young high school dropouts, representing nearly one of eight of the 16- to 24-year-olds. Of the 4 million young high school dropouts, one in six were unemployed; many were not in the labor force at all, and those who were faced strong competition from high school graduates for limited job opportunities.

The information presented in the following narrative and tables is derived from "The Labor Market Problems of Today's High School Dropouts", Monthly Labor Review, June 1988.

Among the nation's unemployed, about three of eight are young persons age 16 to 24. The high unemployment rates among youth reflect the problems often encountered by these new entrants into the labor force. Without a doubt, the youth facing the greatest difficulties are the 4 million high school dropouts. Many dropouts do not participate in the job market at all; of whose who do, one of four are unemployed.

The number of recent dropouts has averaged about 700,000 a year for the last 20 years, although it was at its lowest level, 562,000, in 1986. The 1978 high of 839,000 roughly mirrors the population peak of baby-boomers. The following table shows the number of recent dropouts from 1967 to 1986.

TABLE 24
NUMBER OF RECENT HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUTS
(In thousands)

Year	Dropouts	Year	Dropouts
1967	614	1977	832
1968	610	1978	839
1969	661	1979	812
1970	712	1980	759
1971	657	1981	713
1972	734	1982	668
1973	790	1983	597
1974	813	1984	601
1975	737	1985	612
1976	749	1986	562

The recent dropouts of 1986 were nearly equally divided among young men (53 percent) and young women (47 percent), which was typical of the last two decades. Although the dropout problem is often represented as primarily a problem among minority youth, only 16 percent of recent dropouts in 1986 were black, a proportion representative of black high school enrollment, while 80 percent were white.

Several factors have been theorized to explain what influences youth's decision to drop out of high school. Reliable indicators of who will complete high school appear to be family background characteristics, such as income and parental education, and an individual's performance on intelligence tests and demonstrated reading skill. Studies have found that dropouts are more likely to score lower on ability tests and to come from families with relatively low income and education.

As one might expect, family income differed significantly for recent dropouts and high school graduates. Median income was $12,100 for families of recent dropouts, $22,700 for families of recent high school graduates not enrolled in college, and $34,200 for families of college-enrolled recent high school graduates. These income differences are explained, in part, by the distribution of family types for each group. For example, dropouts are more likely to come from families maintained by women, whose incomes, on average, are less than half those of married-couple families.

TABLE 25
MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME BY TYPE OF FAMILY IN WHICH 16- TO 24-YEAR-OLD RECENT HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUTS AND GRADUATES RESIDE: OCTOBER 1985

Type of family and income[1]	High school dropouts	High school graduates	
		Enrolled in college	Not enrolled in college
All families (thousands)	450	1,457	968
Percent with income less than $10,000	40.9	5.7	14.7
Median family income	$12,084	$34,171	$22,659
Married-couple families (thousands)	231	1,190	699
Percent with income less than $10,000	23.4	2.9	8.8
Median family income	$21,249	$37,593	$26,575
Families maintained by women (thousands)	183	208	226
Percent with income less than $10,000	68.0	21.0	33.8
Median family income	$6,764	$17,968	$12,323

[1]Data refer only to those families reporting income.

Source: "The Labor Market Problems of Today's High School Dropouts", Monthly Labor Review, June 1988.

A second factor, parental education, has also been suggested as influencing the dropout's decision. More than half the recent dropouts were in families where the householder had completed less than 12 years of school; only 10 percent of college-enrolled recent graduates were in such families. Dropouts are also more likely to live in families maintained by women, and these women tend to have relatively low levels of both educational attainment and income.

TABLE 28
DISTRIBUTION OF 16- TO 24-YEAR-OLD RECENT HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUTS AND GRADUATES BY THE EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT OF THE HOUSEHOLDER IN THE FAMILY IN WHICH THEY RESIDE: OCTOBER 1985

(In percent)

Type of family and educational attainment of householder	High school dropouts	High school graduates	
		Enrolled in college	Not enrolled in college
All families[1]	100.0	100.0	100.0
Less than 4 years of high school	55.1	10.3	32.0
4 years of high school	26.7	35.5	46.3
1 to 3 years of college	13.6	22.9	12.7
4 years of college or more	4.7	31.4	9.0
Married-couple families	100.0	100.0	100.0
Less than 4 years of high school	53.5	10.1	33.9
4 years of high school	27.4	34.3	43.9
1 to 3 years of college	11.3	21.7	13.3
4 years of college or more	7.8	33.9	8.9
Families maintained by women	100.0	100.0	100.0
Less than 4 years of high school	59.9	11.7	23.5
4 years of high school	24.2	41.7	55.3
1 to 3 years of college	15.9	30.6	11.9
4 years of college or more	(2)	16.0	9.3

[1] Includes a small number of families maintained by men.
[2] Less than 0.5 percent.

Source: "The Labor Market Problems of Today's High School Dropouts", Monthly Labor Review, June 1988.

In addition to the family background factors, responses obtained from dropouts on their reasons for leaving school add vital information to their portrait. The following table shows the percent of dropouts, by reason, from the Center for Education Statistics' survey.

TABLE 27
PERCENT OF DROPOUTS BY REASON AND SEX

	Male	Female
Had poor grades	35.9	29.7
School not for me	34.8	31.1
Married or planning to get married	6.9	30.7
Was pregnant	-	23.4
Had to support family	13.6	8.3
Offered job and chose to work	26.9	10.7

Source: "Labor Market Problems of Today's High School Dropouts", Monthly Labor Review, June 1988.

For young women, the decision to leave school is primarily related to school or family matters. Many listed marriage or pregnancy as the reason for dropping out; only 11 percent listed "offered job and chose to work." In view of their low labor force participation after leaving school, it appears that work-related factors play a minor role in the decision of young women to drop out. Marital status and childbearing appear to be important factors. For many young men, the reasons given for dropping out of school suggest an implicit choice of work over further studies. For example, in addition to school-related reasons, "offered job and chose to work" and "had to support a family" figured prominently.

In analyzing data on the reasons for leaving school, it is important to note that explanations provided by dropouts may be somewhat questionable because of the complexity of the dropout phenomenon and the natural tendency for persons to rationalize behavior which might be regarded by others as evidence of failure. However, data on the reasons for dropping out of school provide insight into the post-school behavior of dropouts. And the labor force behavior of dropouts, both female and male, is inextricably linked to the reasons and causes of dropping out.

FEMALE DROPOUTS

Between October of 1985 and 1986, more than a quarter of a million young women dropped out of high school. Only a little more than half of them were in the labor force in October 1986, continuing the historical pattern of comparatively low labor force participation among young female dropouts. About 20 years earlier, the participation rate for 16- to 24-year-old female dropouts was just 38 percent. Their participation has steadily increased over the last two decades, reaching 50 percent in 1986. However, their rate was still dramatically below the 77-percent rate for 16- to 24-year-old women who had ended their studies with a high school diploma.

Childbearing and marriage would seem to be two important factors in explaining the low labor force participation of female dropouts. A special tabulation of the March 1987 Current Population Survey data provided a look at the relationship between marital status, presence of children, and labor force participation of 16- to-24-year-old female high school graduates who did not go to college and dropouts. As expected, the presence of children had a negative effect on the participation of both groups. However, regardless of marital or maternal status, dropouts have significantly lower rates of participation than do graduates.

TABLE 28
LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATES OF 16- TO 24-YEAR-OLD FEMALE HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUTS AND GRADUATES BY MARITAL STATUS, PRESENCE OF CHILDREN, RACE, AND HISPANIC ORIGIN: MARCH 1987

Marital status and presence of children	Dropouts				Graduates[1]
	Total	White	Black	Hispanic origin	
Total	46.1%	47.7%	37.9%	35.1%	77.4%
With no own children	59.5	62.4	40.6	58.0	87.1
With own children	35.6	35.5	36.3	21.2	60.0
Married, spouse present	39.5	37.9	([2])	22.8	67.9
With no own children	51.4	47.9	([2])	([2])	81.5
With own children	35.5	34.7	([2])	18.4	58.4
Other marital status[3]	50.0	55.4	35.7	45.4	82.9
With no own children	61.6	68.9	36.5	65.3	88.8
With own children	35.8	36.8	35.1	25.1	62.4
Maintaining families with own children	32.8	35.1	28.2	([2])	61.3

[1]Data refer to graduates who completed 4 years of high school only.

[2]Data not shown where base is less than 75,000.

[3]Refers to single, widowed, divorced, or separated women.

Source: "The Labor Market Problems of Today's High School Graduates", Monthly Labor Review, June 1988.

The presence of children has the greatest impact on the labor force participation of young female dropouts. Regardless of marital status, just over one-third of the dropouts who were mothers were in the labor force. Marital status, however, affects young women's dependence on family and government for financial support. About 44 percent of unmarried mothers lived with relatives, and many received government assistance.

Among female dropouts with children, labor force participation rates vary substantially by race and ethnic background. For example, Hispanic dropouts have significantly lower rates than do their white and black counterparts. (See Table 28.) Cultural attitudes regarding marriage, childbearing, and paid employment may help explain the variations in participation. Although both white and black dropout mothers have similar participation rates, they exhibit distinctly different marital patterns. Only one of ten black mothers was married, compared with about six of ten white mothers and Hispanic mothers. (See Table 29.)

Even when they do not have children, black female dropouts seem to have a very tenuous attachment to the labor force. Approximately 40 percent of them were in the labor force in March 1987, in contrast to about 60 percent of their white or Hispanic counterparts.

TABLE 29
DISTRIBUTION OF 16- TO 24-YEAR-OLD FEMALE DROPOUTS, BY MARITAL STATUS, PRESENCE OF CHILDREN, RACE, AND HISPANIC ORIGIN: MARCH 1987

Marital status and presence of children	Total	White	Black	Hispanic origin
Total female dropouts:				
Number (thousands)	2,024	1,577	391	454
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Married, spouse present	37.2	44.1	10.2	45.8
Other marital status1	62.8	55.9	89.8	54.2
With no own children:				
Number (thousands)	887	714	144	171
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Married, spouse present	21.1	23.7	9.7	26.9
Other marital status1	78.9	76.3	90.3	72.5
With own children:				
Number (thousands)	1,137	863	247	283
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Married, spouse present	49.8	61.1	10.5	56.9
Other marital status[1]	50.2	39.0	89.5	43.1
Maintaining own family	28.1	23.8	42.9	24.4
Living with relatives	22.2	15.3	46.6	18.7

[1]Refers to single, widowed, divorced, or separated women.

Source: "The Labor Market Problems of Today's High School Dropouts", Monthly Labor Review, June 1988.

In October 1986, the unemployment rate for female dropouts age 16 to 24 was 30.4 percent, about two and half times the rate for women this age who had ended their education with a high school degree. Using cross-sectional data for October 1986, the following table shows the effect of time out of school and age on the unemployment rates of female dropouts and graduates.

TABLE 30
UNEMPLOYMENT RATES OF FEMALE DROPOUTS AND GRADUATES
BY TIME OUT OF SCHOOL AND AGE

	Unemployment rates	
	Dropouts	Graduates
Last attended high school:		
Current year (1986)	33.7%	20.3%
1 year ago	40.3	14.3
2 years ago	31.8	16.6
3 years ago	36.5	8.2
4 years ago, or longer	26.4	10.8
Age in 1986:		
16-17	37.1	-
18-19	35.9	15.9
20-21	27.8	12.7
22-24	28.2	11.2

Source: "The Labor Market Problems of Today's High School Graduates", Monthly Labor Review, June 1988.

Unemployment rates for both groups show some decline with age and time out of school, although for dropouts the unemployment rate remains exceptionally high. The unemployment rate was 34 percent for current-year dropouts, compared with 20 percent for 1986 high school graduates not enrolled in college. The gap between graduates' and dropouts' unemployment rates was smallest immediately after leaving school.

MALE DROPOUTS

Because of their strong labor force attachment, the labor market problems of male dropouts have often received more analytical attention than those of female dropouts.

The occupational distribution of young male dropouts suggests that they compete with male high school graduates who did not attend college. Among both groups, about two-fifths of the employed 16- to 24-year-olds are machine operators, fabricators, or laborers; about one-fourth are employed in precision production, craft, and repair jobs; and one out of seven is in service occupations. Such competition between graduates and dropouts often puts the dropout at a distinct disadvantage. In the extreme, the use of the high school diploma as an employment screening device could prevent the qualified dropout from even being considered by the employer.

The occupational distribution of high school dropouts shows that a small proportion (14 percent) was employed in service occupations. A popular stereotype portrays employed youth as low-paid, often part-time workers in service occupations. However, male dropouts are more likely to work full-time in the goods-producing sector as operators, fabricators, or laborers and as precision production, craft, or repair workers. The sector's lagging performance does not promise very strong employment prospects for the recent dropouts who, in the past, have found jobs in mining, manufacturing, and construction.

In October 1986, more than one of five male dropouts were unemployed, compared with one of ten high school graduates. Among dropouts, the unemployment rate for blacks (44 percent) was much higher than that for whites (18 percent) and Hispanics (15 percent). However, the most useful measure of the labor market success of male dropouts and high school graduates may be the employment-population ratio, the employed as a proportion of the civilian noninstitutional population. In October 1986, the employment-population ratio was 48 percent for recent male dropouts and 69 percent for recent high school graduates. Although the employment-population ratios for dropouts generally increase with age and time out of school, the gap between graduates and dropouts remains fairly constant. Using cross-sectional data for October 1986, the following table illustrates the impact of the age and time out of school variables on employment-population ratios.

TABLE 31
EMPLOYMENT-POPULATION RATIOS FOR MALE DROPOUTS AND GRADUATES
BY TIME OUT OF SCHOOL AND AGE

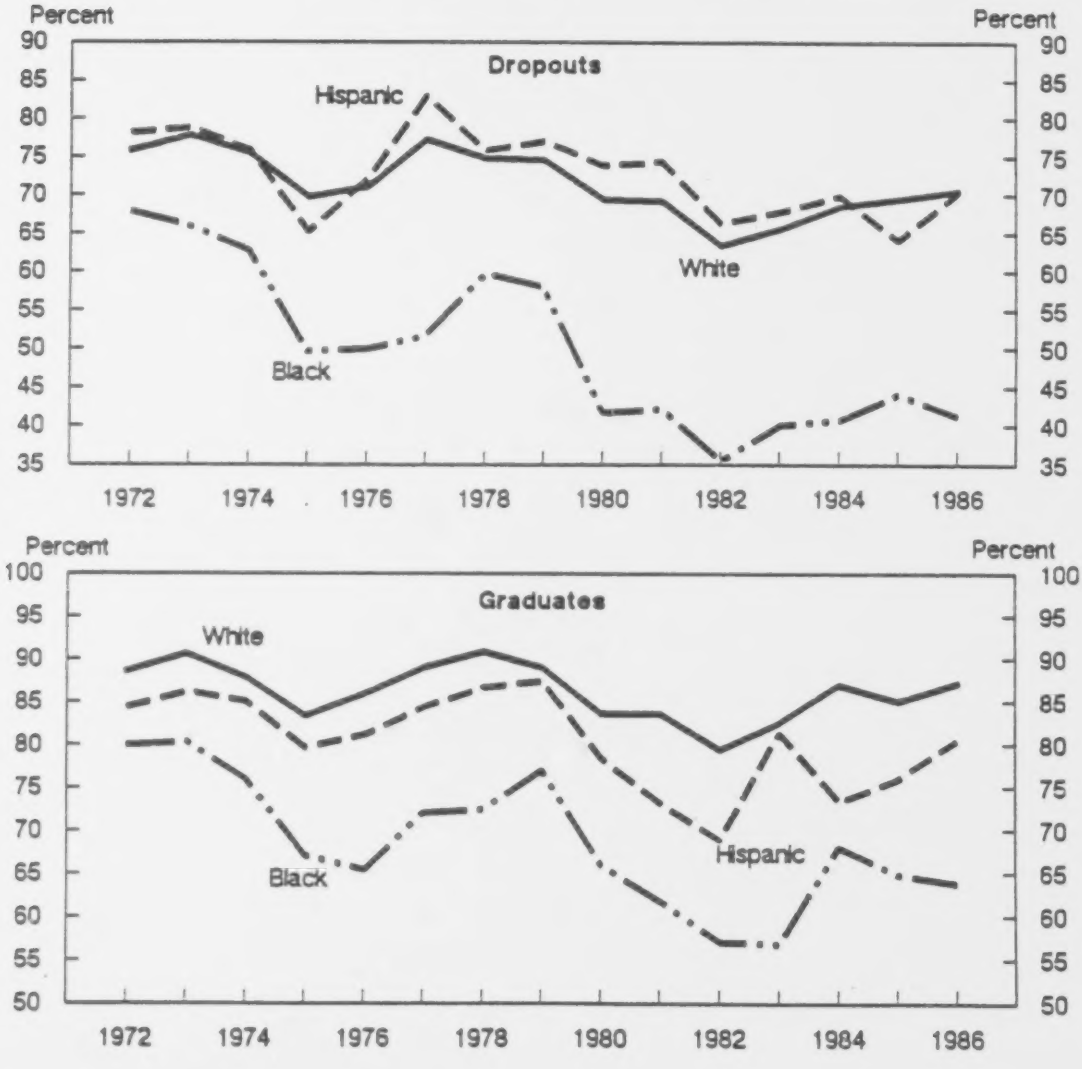
	Employment-population ratios	
	Graduates	Dropouts
Last attended high school:		
Current year (1986)	69.4%	47.6%
1 year ago	81.1	58.5
2 years ago	80.9	61.0
3 years ago	87.0	64.8
4 years ago, or longer	87.7	73.6
Age in 1986:		
16-17	-	44.2
18-19	73.7	63.0
20-21	83.1	68.2
22-24	88.3	74.1

Source: "The Labor Market Problems of Today's High School Dropouts", Monthly Labor Review, June 1988.

Both aging and time out of school give young men a chance to mature and gain valuable work experience as they pass through a period where employment is often of secondary importance. However, over the last two decades there has been an alarming downtrend in employment-population ratios of out-of-school youth, particularly for young black dropouts.

GRAPH 4

EMPLOYMENT-POPULATION RATIOS OF 16- TO 24-YEAR-OLD MALE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES AND DROPOUTS, BY RACE AND HISPANIC ORIGIN, OCTOBER 1972-86



Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, "The Labor Market Problems of Today's High School Dropouts", Monthly Labor Review, June 1988.

Low employment-population ratios among dropouts demonstrate that a large proportion are not working. However, it is important to know whether low employment-population ratios are a result of frequent, short spells of nonemployment or a product of extended periods of nonemployment. During 1986, 17 percent of men age 20 to 24 with less than 4 years of high school had no work experience at all; 25 percent had worked 26 weeks or less. By comparison, about 40 percent of the black dropouts reported no employment whatsoever for the year. Since 1974 (when data were first available), the proportion of black dropouts with no work experience during the year has increased dramatically. This is also true among high school graduates, where blacks clearly had the highest incidence of and greatest rise in nonemployment. The following table shows the proportion of 20- to 24-year-old male graduates and dropouts with no work experience during selected calendar years.

TABLE 32
DISTRIBUTION OF 20- TO 24-YEAR-OLD MALE HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUTS AND GRADUATES WITH NO WORK EXPERIENCE BY RACE

	Total	White	Black	Hispanic origin
Graduates:				
1974	5.3%	4.6%	9.0%	9.2%
1979	5.4	3.7	15.2	8.7
1982	9.6	7.2	22.9	9.5
1986	6.7	4.8	15.7	8.9
Dropouts:				
1974	10.4	9.1	15.1	8.8
1979	12.4	9.3	23.9	9.4
1982	19.6	14.9	40.1	14.3
1986	16.8	11.8	39.7	9.6

Source: "The Labor Market Problems of Today's High School Dropouts", Monthly Labor Review, June 1988.

The proportion of dropouts working 50-52 weeks rose from 46 percent in 1979 to 50 percent in 1986, while the percentage working 26 weeks or less also increased slightly. Black dropouts, however, have shown a decrease in the proportion working full year, as well as a large increase in the number working half a year or less.

TABLE 33
DISTRIBUTION OF 20- TO 24-YEAR-OLD MALE HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUTS WITH WORK EXPERIENCE BY NUMBER OF WEEKS WORKED, RACE, AND HISPANIC ORIGIN: 1979 AND 1986
(In percent)

Weeks worked	Total		White		Black		Hispanic origin	
	1979	1986	1979	1986	1979	1986	1979	1986
Total with work experience	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
50-52 weeks	45.6	49.6	47.2	53.3	37.7	28.1	47.2	58.9
40-49 weeks	16.7	12.4	17.5	12.2	13.4	10.8	13.4	9.1
27-39 weeks	14.4	9.3	13.8	9.8	17.7	6.6	17.7	9.9
1-26 weeks	23.8	28.8	21.2	24.6	31.2	54.5	22.1	21.9
14-26 weeks	13.7	16.0	12.7	13.9	13.9	27.5	15.6	11.3
1-13 weeks	10.2	12.7	8.5	10.7	17.3	26.9	6.5	10.6

Source: "The Labor Market Problems of Today's High School Dropouts", Monthly Labor Review, June 1988.

MEDIAN WEEKLY EARNINGS

Average weekly earnings of the nation's 12 million full-time wage and salary workers 16 to 24 years old were $256 in the fourth quarter of 1988. This represented an increase of 2.8 percent from a year earlier.

Women 16 to 24 years old who usually worked full-time had average weekly earnings of $241, 89 percent of the $271 earned by men 16 to 24 years old who usually worked full-time.

The average weekly earnings for black men 16 to 24 years old working at full-time jobs were $215 in the fourth quarter of 1988, 77 percent of the median for white men 16 to 24 years old ($278).

Movement from less skilled to more skilled occupations and the increased value of youth to employers as young people gain job experience typically lead to rising earnings. In the fourth quarter of 1988, average weekly earnings for men age 16 to 19 years were $211, while men age 20 to 24 years earned $285; average weekly earnings for women age 16 to 19 years were $185, while women age 20 to 24 years earned $257.

TABLE 34

MEDIAN WEEKLY EARNINGS OF FULL-TIME WAGE AND SALARY WORKERS BY AGE, SEX, RACE, AND HISPANIC ORIGIN: FOURTH QUARTER 1988 AVERAGES

(Numbers in thousands)

Age, race, and Hispanic origin	Total		Men		Women	
	Number of workers	Median weekly earnings	Number of workers	Median weekly earnings	Number of workers	Median weekly earnings
TOTAL						
16 years and over . .	89,964	$392	47,885	$458	35,079	$320
16 to 24 years. . .	11,501	256	6,310	271	5,191	241
16 to 19 years. .	1,984	199	1,145	211	839	185
20 to 24 years. .	9,517	272	5,165	285	4,352	257
25 years and over .	71,463	418	41,575	491	29,888	341
WHITE						
16 years and over . .	70,920	402	41,580	475	29,339	323
16 to 24 years. . .	9,886	261	5,406	278	4,480	244
25 years and over .	61,034	431	36,174	502	24,859	348
BLACK						
16 years and over . .	9,474	314	4,866	342	4,608	291
16 to 24 years. . .	1,309	217	744	215	565	223
25 years and over .	8,165	334	4,122	374	4,043	301
HISPANIC						
16 years and over . .	6,632	281	4,224	299	2,408	251
16 to 24 years. . .	1,347	219	896	222	451	214
25 years and over .	5,286	303	3,328	326	1,957	266

Note: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, "News", USDL 89-50.

HOURLY EARNINGS

Over 103 million American workers were paid wages or salaries in 1988, and 61 million of them were paid at hourly rates. The fact that women were more likely than men to work part-time is reflected in the larger proportion of women who were paid by the hour, 62 percent versus 56 percent.

The same explanation applies to younger versus older workers. The proportion paid hourly rates was highest for teenagers, 95 percent, and lowest for those in the central prime age groups, comprising the 35 to 54 population. Even for those aged 65 and over, the proportion was far below that for teenagers and young adults. The high proportion of young workers paid by the hour reflects their tendency to work both part-time and part-year and in occupations less likely to be salaried even when they are employed all year in full-time jobs.

TABLE 35

EMPLOYED WAGE AND SALARY WORKERS PAID HOURLY RATES BY SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS: 1988 ANNUAL AVERAGES

(Numbers in thousands.)

Age	All wage and salary workers			Workers paid hourly rates					
				Number			As a percent of all workers		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
Total, 16 years and over. .	103,021	55,177	47,844	60,878	31,058	29,820	59.1	56.3	62.3
16 to 19 years.	6,460	3,229	3,231	6,130	3,108	3,022	94.9	96.3	93.5
20 to 24 years.	12,565	6,414	6,151	9,640	5,079	4,561	76.7	79.2	74.2
25 to 34 years.	30,754	16,824	13,930	18,000	9,673	8,327	58.5	57.5	59.8
35 to 44 years.	25,127	13,417	11,710	12,792	6,266	6,527	50.9	46.7	55.7
45 to 54 years.	16,136	8,675	7,461	8,057	3,849	4,208	49.9	44.4	56.4
55 to 59 years.	5,879	3,263	2,616	3,021	1,511	1,510	51.4	46.3	57.7
60 to 64 years.	3,778	2,097	1,681	1,992	976	1,016	52.7	46.5	60.4
65 years and over	2,322	1,257	1,065	1,246	597	649	53.7	47.5	60.9

Sources: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Unpublished tabulations from the Current Population Survey, 1988 Annual Averages.
U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment and Earnings, January 1989.

MEDIAN HOURLY EARNINGS

Median hourly earnings for young adults (16 to 24 years old) in 1988 were $4.92; $5.20 for young men and $4.50 for young women. For teenagers (16 to 19 years old), median hourly earnings were $4.13.

The female-to-male earnings ratio, at about 94 percent for teenagers (16 to 19 years old), declined with age. For young adults 20 to 24 years old the ratio declined to 87 percent and to 68 percent for persons over 25 years old.

EARNINGS DISTRIBUTION

Median earnings do not tell the whole story. The median for two different groups could be similar; yet the distribution of earnings of one group may be tightly clustered around the median, while that for another group may be dispersed. Therefore, it is useful to look at distributions as well. Table 36 shows the percent distribution of hourly wages for major demographic groups. Regardless of the median, each demographic group has some people with earnings less than $3 an hour and others with as much as $15 or more. (It should be noted that for some population groups, the extremes of the distribution may contain only a small number of sample observations.)

A little over 2 percent of the workers under age 25 were earning at least $12 an hour in 1988 compared to 21 percent of the workers over age 25. The likelihood of earning at least $12 an hour in 1988 was twice as great for men (about 3 percent) as for women (1.3 percent) under 25 years old.

Among men under 25 years old, the proportion of those earning $12 an hour or more rose from 1.5 percent for those with only an elementary school education to 7.7 percent for those completing four or more years of college. At each level of schooling completed except college, men were more likely than women to earn $12 an hour or more. Young men not completing high school were more than eight times as likely as young women to earn this amount. Among high school graduates, young men were five times as likely as young women to earn $12 per hour or more (4.1 versus 0.8 percent). (See Table 37.)

About 28 percent of all young workers paid hourly rates made under $4 an hour and 3 percent made under $3 an hour. The likelihood of earning less than $3 an hour in 1988 was almost four times as great for women under age 25 (4.8 percent) as for men under age 25 (1.4 percent).

Given the direct correlation of educational attainment and earnings, the likelihood that a person had hourly earnings below $4 per hour diminished with increased schooling. Among hourly paid men under 25 years old with less than four years of high school, 38 percent earned under $4 per hour, compared with 14.6 percent who finished four years of high school, and 9.5 percent of those with four years or more of college. Among hourly paid women under 25 years old with less than four years of high school, 54.8 percent earned under $4 per hour, compared with 27.4 percent who finished four years of high school and 12.6 percent of those with four years or more of college.

Table 38 shows the percent distribution of hourly earnings by marital status. Persons 16 to 24 years old who were married with the spouse present are less likely to earn under $3 per hour (1.7 percent) and more likely to earn $12 or more per hour (4.5 percent). Women, no matter what the marital status, were more likely than men to earn less than $3 per hour.

TABLE 38

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF HOURLY EARNINGS OF WORKERS PAID HOURLY RATES BY SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS: 1988 ANNUAL AVERAGES

Characteristic	Number of workers (in thousands)	Percent distribution										Median hourly earnings
		Under $3.00	$3.00 to $3.99	$4.00 to $4.99	$5.00 to $5.99	$6.00 to $6.99	$7.00 to $7.99	$8.00 to $9.99	$10.00 to $11.99	$12.00 to $14.99	$15.00 or more	
Total												
Total, 16 years and older	60,878	1.6%	11.3%	13.3%	14.0%	11.2%	9.2%	13.3%	10.0%	9.4%	6.8%	6.82%
Under 25 years old	15,770	3.0	25.1	23.0	18.3	11.1	7.3	7.2	3.0	1.5	0.7	4.92
16 to 19 years old	6,130	4.1	40.2	28.5	15.3	6.0	2.9	2.0	0.6	0.1	0.2	4.13
20 to 24 years old	9,640	2.3	15.4	19.5	20.1	14.3	10.1	10.4	4.6	2.3	1.0	5.47
25 years old and over	45,109	1.1	6.5	10.0	12.5	11.2	9.9	15.4	12.4	12.2	8.9	7.85
Men, 16 years and older	31,058	0.6	8.3	10.2	11.3	9.9	8.7	14.5	12.6	13.5	10.4	8.08
Under 25 years old	8,[illegible]	1.4	21.8	21.2	19.0	12.1	8.5	9.2	3.9	2.0	0.9	5.20
16 to 19 years old	3,108	1.8	37.4	28.0	17.0	7.3	3.7	3.0	1.1	0.2	0.3	4.26
20 to 24 years old	5,079	1.1	12.2	17.0	20.2	15.1	11.4	13.0	5.7	3.2	1.3	5.95
25 years old and over	22,872	0.4	3.5	6.2	8.5	9.2	8.7	16.4	15.7	17.6	13.8	9.47
Women, 16 years and older	29,820	2.6	14.4	16.7	16.8	12.4	9.8	12.0	7.3	5.1	3.0	5.96
Under 25 years old	7,583	4.8	28.6	25.0	17.5	9.9	6.0	5.0	2.1	0.9	0.4	4.50
16 to 19 years old	3,022	6.4	43.1	29.0	13.6	4.6	2.0	1.1	0.2	0.0	0.1	4.00
20 to 24 years old	4,561	3.7	19.0	22.3	20.0	13.4	8.6	7.6	3.3	1.4	0.6	5.19
25 years old and over	22,237	1.8	9.6	13.8	16.5	13.3	11.1	14.3	9.0	6.6	3.9	6.48
White												
Total, 16 years and older	51,239	1.7	10.9	13.1	13.7	11.0	9.1	13.4	10.1	9.7	7.1	6.93
Under 25 years old	13,610	3.3	24.6	22.8	18.3	11.0	7.4	7.4	3.1	1.5	0.7	4.95
16 to 19 years old	5,402	4.4	39.7	28.7	15.2	6.1	2.9	2.1	0.7	0.1	0.2	4.14
20 to 24 years old	8,208	2.5	14.6	18.9	20.3	14.3	10.3	10.9	4.7	2.4	1.0	5.53
25 years old and over	37,628	1.2	6.0	9.6	12.1	11.1	9.8	15.6	12.7	12.6	9.5	8.02
Men, 16 years and older	26,225	0.7	7.9	9.8	10.9	9.7	8.5	14.7	12.9	13.9	11.1	8.22
Under 25 years old	7,072	1.4	21.1	20.8	18.9	12.3	8.8	9.7	4.1	2.1	0.9	5.24
16 to 19 years old	2,729	1.9	36.6	28.3	17.2	7.4	3.8	3.2	1.2	0.2	0.3	4.28
20 to 24 years old	4,342	1.1	11.4	16.1	20.0	15.3	11.9	13.8	5.9	3.2	1.3	6.06
25 years old and over	19,153	0.4	3.0	5.8	7.9	8.7	8.4	16.5	16.2	18.3	14.8	9.85
Women, 16 years and older	25,014	2.9	14.1	16.5	16.7	12.5	9.8	12.1	7.2	5.3	3.0	5.98
Under 25 years old	6,538	5.3	28.3	24.9	17.6	9.7	5.9	4.9	2.1	0.9	0.4	4.49
16 to 19 years old	2,673	7.0	42.8	29.1	13.2	4.7	1.9	0.9	0.1	0.0	0.0	3.99
20 to 24 years old	3,866	4.2	18.3	22.0	20.6	13.1	8.6	7.7	3.4	1.5	0.6	5.20
25 years old and over	18,475	2.0	9.0	13.5	16.4	13.5	11.2	14.6	9.0	6.8	4.0	6.55

TABLE 38, continued

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF HOURLY EARNINGS OF WORKERS PAID HOURLY RATES BY SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS: 1988 ANNUAL AVERAGES

Characteristic	Number of workers (in thousands)	Percent distribution										Median hourly earnings
		Under $3.00	$3.00 to $3.99	$4.00 to $4.99	$5.00 to $5.99	$6.00 to $6.99	$7.00 to $7.99	$8.00 to $9.99	$10.00 to $11.99	$12.00 to $14.99	$15.00 or more	
Black												
Total, 16 years and older. .	7,830	0.7%	14.4%	14.9%	15.6%	11.9%	9.5%	12.3%	8.8%	7.8%	4.1%	$6.29
Under 25 years old.	1,709	1.3	29.6	24.5	17.8	11.0	6.6	5.5	2.0	1.3	0.4	4.68
16 to 19 years old	554	1.4	46.9	24.5	15.7	5.8	3.1	2.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	4.04
20 to 24 years old	1,155	1.2	21.2	24.5	18.9	13.5	8.3	7.1	2.9	1.7	0.5	5.11
25 years old and over . . .	6,121	0.6	10.1	12.2	14.9	12.2	10.3	14.2	10.7	9.7	5.1	6.99
Men, 16 years and older. . .	3,927	0.5	11.2	12.1	13.7	11.6	9.5	13.6	10.4	11.3	6.1	7.08
Under 25 years old.	884	1.0	27.9	23.2	19.7	11.0	6.7	5.9	2.3	1.8	0.6	4.86
16 to 19 years old	292	1.0	46.9	22.9	16.1	7.2	3.4	2.1	0.0	0.3	0.3	4.06
20 to 24 years old	592	1.0	18.8	23.3	21.5	12.8	8.4	7.8	3.4	2.5	0.7	5.24
25 years old and over . . .	3,044	0.3	6.3	8.8	11.9	11.8	10.4	15.8	12.7	14.1	7.8	8.03
Women, 16 years and older. .	3,903	1.0	17.6	17.7	17.5	12.2	9.4	11.0	7.2	4.3	2.0	5.67
Under 25 years old.	826	1.6	31.2	25.9	15.7	11.0	6.5	5.1	1.8	0.7	0.2	4.53
16 to 19 years old	263	1.9	47.1	26.6	14.8	4.2	2.7	2.3	0.4	0.0	0.0	4.02
20 to 24 years old	563	1.6	23.8	25.8	16.2	14.2	8.3	6.2	2.5	1.1	0.4	4.93
25 years old and over . . .	3,078	0.8	13.9	15.5	17.9	12.6	10.1	12.7	8.6	5.3	2.5	6.11
Hispanic												
Total, 16 years and older. .	5,394	0.5	12.1	18.7	16.9	12.5	9.5	12.5	7.4	6.0	3.9	6.10
Under 25 years old.	1,467	0.7	21.7	26.2	21.2	11.1	7.5	7.8	2.0	1.0	0.7	5.04
16 to 19 years old	449	0.9	36.3	34.5	17.8	6.0	1.6	2.2	0.4	0.0	0.0	4.22
20 to 24 years old	1,018	0.6	15.3	22.5	22.7	13.4	10.2	10.5	2.7	1.4	1.0	5.36
25 years old and over . . .	3,927	0.4	8.5	15.9	15.3	12.9	10.3	14.2	9.4	7.9	5.1	6.66
Men, 16 years and older. . .	3,265	0.2	9.2	16.1	15.7	12.2	9.7	14.7	9.1	7.8	5.4	6.58
Under 25 years old.	883	0.5	17.9	24.8	22.5	11.3	8.6	10.3	2.3	1.1	0.7	5.20
16 to 19 years old	247	0.4	32.8	32.4	21.5	6.1	2.0	3.2	0.8	0.0	0.0	4.31
20 to 24 years old	637	0.5	12.1	21.7	22.9	13.3	11.1	13.0	2.8	1.6	0.9	5.47
25 years old and over . . .	2,382	0.2	6.0	13.0	13.1	12.5	10.1	16.3	11.6	10.2	7.1	7.46
Women, 16 years and older. .	2,129	0.8	16.6	22.6	18.8	12.9	9.2	9.2	4.7	3.3	1.7	5.39
Under 25 years old.	583	1.0	27.8	28.3	19.4	11.0	5.8	4.1	1.5	0.7	0.7	4.49
16 to 19 years old	202	1.5	40.6	36.6	13.9	5.9	1.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.13
20 to 24 years old	381	0.8	20.7	23.6	22.3	13.4	8.4	6.0	2.4	1.0	1.0	5.15
25 years old and over . . .	1,546	0.8	12.5	20.5	18.6	13.6	10.5	11.1	6.0	4.3	2.1	5.80

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Unpublished tabulations from the Current Population Survey, 1988 Annual Averages.

TABLE 37

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF HOURLY EARNINGS OF EMPLOYED WAGE AND SALARY WORKERS PAID HOURLY RATES BY YEARS OF SCHOOL COMPLETED, SEX, AND AGE: 1988 ANNUAL AVERAGES

Years of school completed	Number of workers (in thousands)	Percent Distribution									
		Under $3.00	$3.00 to $3.99	$4.00 to $4.99	$5.00 to $5.99	$6.00 to $6.99	$7.00 to $7.99	$8.00 to $9.99	$10.00 to $11.99	$12.00 to $14.99	$15.00 or more
Men, 16 to 25 years old.	8,186	1.4%	21.8%	21.2%	19.0%	12.1%	8.5%	9.2%	3.9%	2.0%	0.9%
Less than 4 years High School .	2,605	1.8	36.3	26.2	16.1	8.3	4.6	4.0	1.5	0.6	0.5
Elementary, 8 years or less. .	340	2.1	23.8	23.2	20.3	14.1	6.2	7.1	1.2	0.9	0.6
High School, 1 to 3 years. . .	2,266	1.8	38.2	26.6	15.5	7.5	4.3	3.5	1.5	0.6	0.5
4 years High School or more . .	5,581	1.1	15.1	18.8	20.4	13.9	10.3	11.6	5.1	2.7	1.1
High School, 4 years	3,446	0.6	14.0	17.9	21.2	13.9	11.1	12.2	5.2	3.0	1.1
College, 1 year or more. . . .	2,135	1.9	16.7	20.2	19.2	13.9	9.1	10.8	4.8	2.2	1.1
College, 1 to 3 years	1,850	1.9	18.2	20.9	19.6	13.1	8.5	10.5	4.7	1.8	0.8
College, 4 years or more. . .	285	2.1	7.4	16.1	16.5	18.6	12.6	13.0	6.0	4.9	2.8
College, 4 years	239	2.1	6.7	16.3	16.3	20.1	11.7	13.4	5.9	4.2	2.9
College, 5 years or more . .	47	0.0	10.6	12.8	17.0	10.6	17.0	8.5	6.4	8.5	4.3
Men, 25 years and over	22,872	0.4	3.5	6.2	8.5	9.2	8.7	16.4	15.7	17.6	13.8
Less than 4 years High School .	5,348	0.4	6.2	10.3	13.1	12.9	9.8	16.6	12.6	11.4	6.5
Elementary, 8 years or less. .	2,295	0.6	8.6	13.6	14.9	14.7	10.2	14.2	9.4	8.8	5.0
High School, 1 to 3 years. . .	3,052	0.2	4.4	7.9	11.8	11.6	9.6	18.4	15.1	13.3	7.7
4 years High School or more . .	17,524	0.4	2.7	5.0	7.1	8.0	8.4	16.3	16.6	19.5	16.0
High School, 4 years	11,130	0.3	2.7	5.2	7.2	8.4	9.0	17.4	16.9	19.4	13.4
College, 1 year or more. . . .	6,394	0.5	2.6	4.5	6.9	7.4	7.3	14.4	16.0	19.8	20.6
College, 1 to 3 years	4,234	0.4	2.7	4.7	6.7	7.8	7.4	14.8	16.9	20.3	18.3
College, 4 years or more. . .	2,160	0.7	2.5	4.1	7.2	6.7	7.2	13.5	14.3	18.8	25.0
College, 4 years	1,501	0.9	2.5	4.0	7.1	7.0	6.9	14.4	15.1	19.8	22.5
College, 5 years or more . .	659	0.5	2.4	4.4	7.6	5.9	7.9	11.7	12.6	16.4	30.7
Women, 16 to 25 years old. . . .	7,583	4.8	28.6	25.0	17.5	9.9	6.0	5.0	2.1	0.9	0.4
Less than 4 years High School .	1,915	7.6	47.2	27.9	11.0	3.0	1.6	1.2	0.4	0.1	0.2
Elementary, 8 years or less. .	130	10.0	30.8	33.8	15.4	2.3	3.1	1.5	0.0	0.0	1.5
High School, 1 to 3 years. . .	1,785	7.5	48.3	27.5	10.6	3.0	1.5	1.0	0.4	0.1	0.1
4 years High School or more . .	5,668	3.9	22.3	24.0	19.6	12.2	7.4	6.2	2.6	1.1	0.5
High School, 4 years	3,133	3.5	23.9	26.6	19.9	11.5	6.9	5.6	1.4	0.5	0.3
College, 1 year or more. . . .	2,537	4.3	20.3	20.8	19.4	13.2	8.2	7.2	4.1	1.9	0.7
College, 1 to 3 years	2,147	4.6	22.2	22.4	20.0	12.9	7.6	6.1	2.9	0.9	0.5
College, 4 years or more. . .	388	2.8	9.8	11.9	16.5	14.9	11.1	13.4	10.3	7.7	1.8
College, 4 years	341	2.9	9.1	11.7	15.8	15.5	11.4	13.8	11.1	8.2	1.5
College, 5 years or more . .	48	2.1	14.6	16.7	20.8	12.5	6.3	8.3	4.2	2.1	8.3
Women, 25 years and over	22,237	1.8	9.6	13.8	16.5	13.3	11.1	14.3	9.0	6.6	3.9
Less than 4 years High School .	3,703	2.4	19.7	22.6	21.1	13.1	8.0	8.0	2.8	1.7	0.5
Elementary, 8 years or less. .	1,264	2.3	22.0	25.0	22.1	11.9	7.2	6.1	2.3	0.8	0.6
High School, 1 to 3 years. . .	2,439	2.5	18.5	21.4	20.7	13.7	8.5	9.1	3.1	2.2	0.5
4 years High School or more . .	18,534	1.7	7.6	12.1	15.6	13.4	11.7	15.6	10.3	7.6	4.6
High School, 4 years	11,071	1.9	9.5	14.5	17.9	15.0	12.1	14.9	8.3	4.3	1.5
College, 1 year or more. . . .	7,462	1.4	4.7	8.4	12.3	10.9	11.0	16.6	13.2	12.4	9.1
College, 1 to 3 years	4,700	1.4	5.6	9.4	14.0	12.3	12.1	17.2	13.0	9.9	5.0
College, 4 years or more. . .	2,763	1.3	3.2	6.7	9.4	8.5	9.0	15.5	13.5	16.6	16.2
College, 4 years	1,975	1.3	3.3	6.9	9.8	9.2	10.1	16.4	13.5	16.4	13.1
College, 5 years or more . .	788	1.4	2.8	6.2	8.4	6.7	6.5	13.5	13.6	17.3	23.9

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Unpublished tabulations from the Current Population Survey, 1988 Annual Average.

TABLE 38

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF HOURLY EARNINGS OF WORKERS PAID HOURLY RATES BY MARITAL STATUS, AGE, AND SEX: 1988 ANNUAL AVERAGES

Characteristic	Number of workers (in thousands)	Percent distribution										Median hourly earnings
		Under $3.00	$3.00 to $4.00	$4.00 to $4.99	$5.00 to $5.99	$6.00 to $6.99	$7.00 to $7.99	$8.00 to $9.99	$10.00 to $11.99	$12.00 to $14.99	$15.00 or more	
Total												
Never married,												
16 years and over	19,616	2.7%	20.7%	19.6%	16.6%	11.0%	7.8%	9.3%	5.7%	4.1%	2.6%	$5.30
16 to 24 years	12,770	3.3	27.6	23.9	18.1	10.3	6.4	6.1	2.6	1.1	0.5	4.70
25 years and over	6,846	1.6	7.9	11.4	13.9	12.2	10.3	15.2	11.3	9.7	6.4	7.22
Married, spouse present,												
16 years and over	32,421	0.9	6.0	9.7	12.3	11.1	9.9	15.4	12.6	12.7	9.4	8.00
16 to 24 years	2,587	1.7	13.2	18.7	19.0	14.5	11.6	11.9	4.9	3.3	1.2	5.81
25 years and over	29,834	0.8	5.3	8.9	11.7	10.8	9.8	15.7	13.2	13.5	10.1	8.21
Other marital status,												
16 years and over	8,841	1.6	10.1	12.9	14.4	11.9	9.7	14.1	9.9	9.0	6.3	6.89
16 to 24 years	412	4.1	20.9	21.1	19.4	12.6	6.8	10.4	2.9	1.2	0.7	5.14
25 years and over	8,428	1.5	9.6	12.5	14.1	11.8	9.8	14.3	10.3	9.4	6.6	7.03
Separated and divorced,												
16 years and over	6,993	1.7	9.1	12.0	13.3	11.7	9.9	14.8	10.6	9.9	7.0	7.17
16 to 24 years	357	4.8	20.2	20.2	19.3	11.8	7.3	10.9	3.1	1.1	0.8	5.16
25 years and over	6,636	1.6	8.5	11.5	13.0	11.7	10.0	15.0	11.0	10.4	7.3	7.31
Men												
Never married,												
16 years and over	10,911	1.3	17.9	18.0	16.8	11.8	8.5	10.8	6.7	5.0	3.2	5.59
16 to 24 years	6,916	1.5	24.5	22.6	19.2	11.5	7.5	7.8	3.2	1.4	0.8	5.04
25 years and over	3,995	1.0	6.6	10.0	12.6	12.4	10.1	16.1	12.6	11.3	7.4	7.67
Married, spouse present,												
16 years and over	16,976	0.2	2.8	5.3	7.9	8.7	8.7	16.6	16.4	18.7	14.7	9.95
16 to 24 years	1,132	0.4	7.2	13.3	17.4	15.2	14.3	17.0	8.1	5.6	1.6	6.70
25 years and over	15,844	0.2	2.5	4.8	7.2	8.2	8.3	16.5	17.0	19.6	15.7	10.15
Other marital status,												
16 years and over	3,171	0.4	5.1	9.2	10.7	10.1	9.0	16.0	12.6	14.9	12.0	8.48
16 to 24 years	138	0.0	9.4	16.7	24.6	18.1	7.2	16.7	3.6	2.9	1.4	6.00
25 years and over	3,032	0.5	5.0	8.8	10.1	9.8	9.0	16.0	13.0	15.4	12.4	8.70
Separated and divorced,												
16 years and over	2,696	0.4	4.3	8.0	10.1	10.2	9.1	16.6	13.3	15.7	12.4	8.82
16 to 24 years	109	0.0	6.4	14.7	26.6	15.6	9.2	16.5	4.6	3.7	1.8	6.09
25 years and over	2,587	0.4	4.3	7.7	9.4	9.9	9.0	16.5	13.6	16.2	12.9	9.01
Women												
Never married,												
16 years and over	8,705	4.3	24.3	21.5	16.5	9.9	6.9	7.3	4.4	3.0	1.8	4.98
16 to 24 years	5,854	5.3	31.3	25.6	16.8	8.9	5.1	4.1	1.9	0.7	0.3	4.38
25 years and over	2,851	2.4	9.9	13.3	15.8	12.0	10.6	13.9	9.6	7.5	5.0	6.60
Married, spouse present,												
16 years and over	15,445	1.6	9.4	14.5	17.1	13.7	11.3	14.2	8.4	6.2	3.6	6.41
16 to 24 years	1,455	2.7	17.9	23.0	20.3	14.0	9.4	7.9	2.5	1.6	0.9	5.25
25 years and over	13,989	1.5	8.6	13.6	16.7	13.7	11.5	14.8	9.0	6.7	3.8	6.57
Other marital status,												
16 years and over	5,670	2.3	12.9	15.0	16.4	12.9	10.1	13.0	8.4	5.7	3.2	6.21
16 to 24 years	274	6.2	26.6	23.4	17.2	9.9	6.2	7.7	2.2	0.4	0.4	4.62
25 years and over	5,396	2.1	12.2	14.6	16.4	13.0	10.3	13.3	8.7	6.0	3.4	6.44
Separated and divorced,												
16 years and over	4,297	2.5	12.1	14.5	15.4	12.7	10.4	13.6	8.9	6.3	3.5	6.35
16 to 24 years	248	6.9	26.6	22.6	16.1	10.1	6.5	8.1	2.4	0.4	0.4	4.66
25 years and over	4,049	2.3	11.3	14.0	15.3	12.9	10.7	13.9	9.3	6.6	3.7	6.45

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Unpublished tabulations from the Current Population Survey, 1988 Annual Average.

MINIMUM AND SUBMINIMUM WAGE

The prevailing minimum wage, which has been $3.35 per hour since January 1981, was established by the 1977 revisions to the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) of 1938. About 2.6 million workers were reported as earning exactly $3.35 an hour in 1988, and 1.3 million were reported as earning less than this amount. Together, these workers constituted about 6.5 percent of all hourly paid workers.

It is important to note at the outset that the presence of a sizable group of hourly paid workers receiving less than the minimum wage does not necessarily indicate widespread violations of the FLSA, as there are a number of exemptions to its minimum wage provisions. These exemptions are wide-ranging and include employees in outside sales work, low volume retail trade and service firms, and seasonal amusement establishments.

For the most part, persons earning $3.35 an hour or less tend to be young. About 58 percent of those with these low earnings were under age 25; 36 percent were teenagers. Among teenagers alone, 23 percent earned $3.35 or less. Persons 25 and over, while representing 42 percent of the total number of minimum wage earners, had a relatively low probability of earning at or below $3.35, as one out of 27 hourly paid persons in this age group earned this amount.

Nearly 65 percent of all women who were paid hourly rates earned the prevailing minimum wage or below, which was almost double the proportion for men. For women under 25 years of age, 17.6 percent earned at or below $3.35 an hour compared to 11.6 percent of the men in this age group. Among teenagers 26.5 percent of the women and 19.8 percent of the men earned at or below $3.35 an hour.

An examination of minimum wage workers under 25 years old by race and ethnic background shows that only a slightly higher proportion of blacks than whites and Hispanics earned $3.35 or less. Nearly 16 percent of black workers paid hourly rates under 25 years old were in this earnings group, compared with 11.5 percent of the Hispanics and 14.4 percent of the whites.

TABLE 39

WORKERS PAID HOURLY RATES WITH EARNINGS AT OR BELOW THE PREVAILING MINIMUM WAGE BY SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS
1988 ANNUAL AVERAGES

Sex, age, race, and Hispanic origin	Number of workers (in thousands)				Percent distribution				Percent of all workers paid hourly rates		
	Total paid hourly rates	At or below $3.35			Total paid hourly rates	At or below $3.35			At or below $3.35		
		Total	At $3.35	Below $3.35		Total	At $3.35	Below $3.35	Total	At $3.35	Below $3.35
Total											
Total, 16 years and older	60,878	3,927	2,608	1,319	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	6.5%	4.3%	2.2%
Under 25 years old	15,770	2,281	1,612	669	25.9	58.1	61.8	50.7	14.5	10.2	4.2
16 to 19 years old	8,130	1,418	1,038	382	10.1	36.1	39.7	29.0	23.1	16.9	6.2
20 to 24 years old	9,640	864	577	287	15.8	22.0	22.1	21.8	9.0	6.0	3.0
25 years old and over	45,109	1,646	996	650	74.1	41.9	38.2	49.3	3.6	2.2	1.4
Men, 16 years and older	31,058	1,377	1,066	311	51.0	35.1	40.9	23.6	4.4	3.4	1.0
Under 25 years old	8,186	946	759	187	13.4	24.1	29.1	14.2	11.6	9.3	2.3
16 to 19 years old	3,108	616	501	115	5.1	15.7	19.2	8.7	19.8	16.1	3.7
20 to 24 years old	5,079	330	258	72	8.3	8.4	9.9	5.5	6.5	5.1	1.4
25 years old and over	22,872	431	307	124	37.6	11.0	11.8	9.4	1.9	1.3	0.5
Women, 16 years and older	29,820	2,550	1,542	1,008	49.0	64.9	59.1	76.4	8.6	5.2	3.4
Under 25 years old	7,583	1,335	853	482	12.5	34.0	32.7	36.5	17.6	11.2	6.4
16 to 19 years old	3,022	801	534	267	5.0	20.4	20.5	20.2	26.5	17.7	8.8
20 to 24 years old	4,561	534	319	215	7.5	13.6	12.2	16.3	11.7	7.0	4.7
25 years old and over	22,237	1,215	689	526	36.5	30.9	26.4	39.9	5.5	3.1	2.4
White											
Total, 16 years and older	51,239	3,236	2,047	1,189	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	6.3	4.0	2.3
Under 25 years old	13,610	1,964	1,343	621	26.6	60.7	65.6	52.2	14.4	9.9	4.6
16 to 19 years old	5,402	1,243	882	361	10.5	38.4	43.1	30.4	23.0	16.3	6.7
20 to 24 years old	8,208	721	461	260	16.0	22.3	22.5	21.9	8.8	5.6	3.2
25 years old and over	37,628	1,272	704	568	73.4	39.3	34.4	47.8	3.4	1.9	1.5
Men, 16 years and older	26,225	1,085	821	264	51.2	33.5	40.1	22.2	4.1	3.1	1.0
Under 25 years old	7,072	787	622	165	13.8	24.3	30.4	13.9	11.1	8.8	2.3
16 to 19 years old	2,729	528	425	103	5.3	16.3	20.8	8.7	19.3	15.6	3.8
20 to 24 years old	4,342	259	197	62	8.5	8.0	9.6	5.2	6.0	4.5	1.4
25 years old and over	19,153	298	199	99	37.4	9.2	9.7	8.3	1.6	1.0	0.5
Women, 16 years and older	25,014	2,150	1,225	925	48.8	66.4	59.8	77.8	8.6	4.9	3.7
Under 25 years old	6,538	1,176	720	456	12.8	36.3	35.2	38.4	18.0	11.0	7.0
16 to 19 years old	2,673	715	457	258	5.2	22.1	22.3	21.7	26.7	17.1	9.7
20 to 24 years old	3,866	462	264	198	7.5	14.3	12.9	16.7	12.0	6.8	5.1
25 years old and over	18,475	974	505	469	36.1	30.1	24.7	39.4	5.3	2.7	2.5

TABLE 39, continued

WORKERS PAID HOURLY RATES WITH EARNINGS AT OR BELOW THE PREVAILING MINIMUM WAGE BY SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS
1988 ANNUAL AVERAGES

Sex, age, race, and Hispanic origin	Number of workers (in thousands)				Percent distribution				Percent of all workers paid hourly rates		
	Total paid hourly rates	At or below $3.35			Total paid hourly rates	At or below $3.35			At or below $3.35		
		Total	At $3.35	Below $3.35		Total	At $3.35	Below $3.35	Total	At $3.35	Below $3.35
Black											
Total, 16 years and older. .	7,830	599	499	100	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	7.7%	6.4%	1.3%
Under 25 years old.	1,709	268	232	36	21.8	44.7	46.5	36.0	15.7	13.6	2.1
16 to 19 years old	554	145	131	14	7.1	24.2	26.3	14.0	26.2	23.6	2.5
20 to 24 years old	1,155	124	102	22	14.8	20.7	20.4	22.0	10.7	8.8	1.9
25 years old and over . . .	6,121	331	267	64	78.2	55.3	53.5	64.0	5.4	4.4	1.0
Men, 16 years and older. . .	3,927	242	209	33	50.2	40.4	41.9	33.0	6.2	5.3	0.8
Under 25 years old.	884	131	116	15	11.3	21.9	23.2	15.0	14.8	13.1	1.7
16 to 19 years old	292	72	64	8	3.7	12.0	12.8	8.0	24.7	21.9	2.7
20 to 24 years old	592	59	52	7	7.6	9.8	10.4	7.0	10.0	8.8	1.2
25 years old and over . . .	3,044	111	93	18	38.9	18.5	18.6	18.0	3.6	3.1	0.6
Women, 16 years and older. .	3,903	357	290	67	49.8	59.6	58.1	67.0	9.1	7.4	1.7
Under 25 years old.	826	137	116	21	10.5	22.9	23.2	21.0	16.6	14.0	2.5
16 to 19 years old	263	71	66	5	3.4	11.9	13.2	5.0	27.0	25.1	1.9
20 to 24 years old	563	65	50	15	7.2	10.9	10.0	15.0	11.5	8.9	2.7
25 years old and over . . .	3,078	220	174	46	39.3	36.7	34.9	46.0	7.1	5.7	1.5
Hispanic											
Total, 16 years and older. .	5,394	322	278	44	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	6.0	5.2	0.8
Under 25 years old.	1,467	169	149	20	27.2	52.5	53.6	45.5	11.5	10.2	1.4
16 to 19 years old	449	83	73	10	8.3	25.8	26.3	22.7	18.5	16.3	2.2
20 to 24 years old	1,018	87	77	10	18.9	27.0	27.7	22.7	8.5	7.6	1.0
25 years old and over . . .	3,927	153	129	24	72.8	47.5	46.4	54.5	3.9	3.3	0.6
Men, 16 years and older. . .	3,265	130	117	13	60.5	40.4	42.1	29.5	4.0	3.6	0.4
Under 25 years old.	883	74	65	9	16.4	23.0	23.4	20.5	8.4	7.4	1.0
16 to 19 years old	247	34	30	4	4.6	10.6	10.8	9.1	13.8	12.1	1.6
20 to 24 years old	637	40	35	5	11.8	12.4	12.6	11.4	6.3	5.5	0.8
25 years old and over . . .	2,382	55	51	4	44.2	17.1	18.3	9.1	2.3	2.1	0.2
Women, 16 years and older. .	2,129	193	162	31	39.5	59.9	58.3	70.5	9.1	7.6	1.5
Under 25 years old.	583	95	84	11	10.8	29.5	30.2	25.0	16.3	14.4	1.9
16 to 19 years old	202	48	42	6	3.7	14.9	15.1	13.6	23.8	20.8	3.0
20 to 24 years old	381	46	42	4	7.1	14.3	15.1	9.1	12.1	11.0	1.0
25 years old and over . . .	1,546	99	78	21	28.7	30.7	28.1	47.7	6.4	5.0	1.4

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Unpublished tabulations from the Current Population Survey, 1988 Annual Average.

POPULATION PROJECTIONS

The information presented in the following narrative and tables is derived from "Projections of the Population of States, by Age, Sex, and Race: 1988 to 2010," Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 1017.

REGIONAL GROWTH

The South and the West will continue to be the fastest growing regions in the United States. Between 1986 and 1990, almost one-half of all growth in the U.S. population is projected to occur in the South. During this period, the South is projected to grow by 5.2 percent; this growth is nearly evenly distributed between natural increase and net migration. Almost 35 percent of the U.S. population would be residing in the South by 1990.

During the 1990s, the South would continue to follow the West as the second fastest growing region. For the decade of the 1990s, over one-half of the South's total growth would be from migration.

The patterns of regional growth shown for the last 14 years of this century are projected to continue into the next century. As the U.S. population continues to age, the levels of natural increase would continue to decline. Almost all of the growth in the United States would continue to be concentrated in the South and West regions under the assumptions of the projections. Over one-half of the South's projected growth would continue to be from net inmigration, while a majority of the West's projected growth would be from natural increase. By 2010, the South would still be the most populous region increasing its share of the total population to over 37 percent.

AGE DISTRIBUTION

Trends, 1986 to 1990. In general, the projected changes in the age distribution among the four regions mirror the changes projected for the United States. During the remainder of this decade, all four regions are projected to experience increases in the pre-school age population. In the South, between 1986 and 1990, the number of children aged five to 17 is projected to increase by 291,000. Reflecting the overall changes in the age structure of the United States, all four regions would experience a decline in the young adult population (aged 18 to 24) and increases in the population aged 25 to 64. Although Baby Boomers do not move into the 65-and-over age group until well into the next century, between 1986 and 1990 all four regions of the United States are projected to show population increases in this age group.

Trends, 1990 to 2000. During the last decade of this century, the number of children under age five are projected to decline by 1.5 million, while the numbers of school-age children would increase by over 3 million. These trends are pervasive in all four regions. The number of young adults aged 18 to 24 is projected to decline in all regions except the West.

Trends, 2000 to 2010. Between 2000 and 2010, the numbers of children under age 5 are projected to remain constant in the United States, declining in the Northeast and Midwest and increasing in the South and West. The number of school-age children would decrease in all four regions. During this period, the aging of the Baby Boom cohorts is reflected in the declines for the population ages 25 to 44 and increases in the age group 45 to 64. By the year 2010, the Northeast, Midwest, and South all would have approximately 14 percent of their population in the oldest age group.

TABLE 40
ESTIMATES AND PROJECTIONS OF THE POPULATION, BY AGE FOR REGIONS: 1986-2010

(Numbers in thousands.) (As of July 1.)

Year and region	All ages	Under 5 years	5-17 years	18-24 years	25-44 years	45-64 years	65 years and over	Median age
1986:								
United States	241,078	18,128	45,143	27,739	75,852	45,044	29,173	31.7
Northeast	50,017	3,353	8,731	5,737	15,338	10,160	6,698	33.4
Midwest	59,313	4,394	11,363	6,822	18,286	11,054	7,394	31.6
South	82,988	6,318	15,930	9,702	25,824	15,318	9,895	31.4
West	48,760	4,063	9,119	5,478	16,404	8,511	5,185	31.0
1990:								
United States	249,891	18,408	45,629	25,897	81,555	46,842	31,559	33.0
Northeast	50,577	3,387	8,513	5,123	16,300	10,166	7,088	34.5
Midwest	59,777	4,494	11,114	6,112	19,203	11,120	7,735	32.9
South	87,276	6,401	16,222	9,248	27,131	16,328	10,946	32.8
West	52,261	4,126	9,781	5,415	17,921	9,228	5,790	32.3
2000:								
United States	267,747	16,898	48,815	24,987	80,793	61,373	34,882	36.5
Northeast	51,810	3,003	9,004	4,421	15,854	12,179	7,348	37.6
Midwest	59,596	3,820	11,167	5,535	17,626	13,535	7,913	36.4
South	96,919	6,089	17,579	9,226	28,950	22,265	12,809	36.5
West	59,422	3,985	11,064	5,806	18,363	13,393	6,811	35.3
2010:								
United States	282,055	16,899	45,747	26,911	74,507	78,629	39,362	39.0
Northeast	52,496	2,835	8,166	4,777	14,033	15,012	7,674	40.3
Midwest	59,018	3,625	9,879	5,689	15,183	16,401	8,261	38.8
South	104,919	6,188	16,855	10,013	27,280	29,432	15,151	39.4
West	65,622	4,251	10,847	6,452	18,011	17,766	8,276	37.4
CHANGE IN POPULATION								
1986-1990:								
United States	8,813	280	486	-1,842	5,703	1,799	2,386	
Northeast	560	34	-219	-615	963	6	391	
Midwest	464	100	-249	-710	916	66	341	
South	4,288	83	291	-455	2,307	1,010	1,051	
West	3,501	63	663	-63	1,517	717	604	
1990-2000:								
United States	17,857	-1,510	3,185	-909	-762	14,531	3,323	
Northeast	1,233	-384	492	-702	-446	2,012	260	
Midwest	-181	-675	54	-577	-1,577	2,415	178	
South	9,643	-312	1,357	-22	819	5,938	1,863	
West	7,162	-140	1,283	391	442	4,165	1,021	
2000-2010:								
United States	14,308	1	-3,068	1,924	-6,286	17,256	4,481	
Northeast	686	-169	-838	356	-1,821	2,833	326	
Midwest	-579	-194	-1,288	134	-2,443	2,865	348	
South	8,000	99	-724	787	-1,669	7,166	2,342	
West	6,200	265	-217	646	-352	4,392	1,465	

Source: "Projections of the Population of States, by Age, Sex, and Race: 1988 to 2010", Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 1017.

TABLE 41

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF THE ESTIMATES AND PROJECTIONS OF THE POPULATION, BY AGE FOR REGIONS: 1986-2010

(As of July 1.)

Year and region	All ages	Under 5 years	5-17 years	18-24 years	25-44 years	45-64 years	65 years and over
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION WITHIN REGION							
1986:							
United States	100.0	7.5	18.7	11.5	31.5	18.7	12.1
Northeast	100.0	6.7	17.5	11.5	30.7	20.3	13.4
Midwest	100.0	7.4	19.2	11.5	30.8	18.6	12.5
South	100.0	7.6	19.2	11.7	31.1	18.5	11.9
West	100.0	8.3	18.7	11.2	33.6	17.5	10.6
1990:							
United States	100.0	7.4	18.3	10.4	32.6	18.8	12.6
Northeast	100.0	6.7	16.8	10.1	32.2	20.1	14.0
Midwest	100.0	7.5	18.6	10.2	32.1	18.6	12.9
South	100.0	7.3	18.6	10.6	32.2	18.7	12.5
West	100.0	7.9	18.7	10.4	34.3	17.7	11.1
2000:							
United States	100.0	6.3	18.2	9.3	30.2	22.9	13.0
Northeast	100.0	5.8	17.4	8.5	30.6	23.5	14.2
Midwest	100.0	6.4	18.7	9.3	29.6	22.7	13.3
South	100.0	6.3	18.1	9.5	29.9	23.0	13.2
West	100.0	6.7	18.6	9.8	30.9	22.5	11.5
2010:							
United States	100.0	6.0	16.2	9.5	26.4	27.9	14.0
Northeast	100.0	5.4	15.6	9.1	26.7	28.6	14.6
Midwest	100.0	6.1	16.7	9.6	25.7	27.8	14.0
South	100.0	5.9	16.1	9.5	26.0	28.1	14.4
West	100.0	6.5	16.5	9.8	27.5	27.1	12.6
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION BY REGION							
1986:							
United States	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Northeast	20.8	18.5	19.3	20.7	20.2	22.6	23.0
Midwest	24.6	24.2	25.2	24.6	24.1	24.5	25.4
South	34.4	34.9	35.3	35.0	34.1	34.0	33.9
West	20.2	22.4	20.2	19.8	21.6	18.9	17.8
1990:							
United States	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Northeast	20.2	18.4	18.7	19.8	20.0	21.7	22.5
Midwest	23.9	24.4	24.4	23.6	23.6	23.7	24.5
South	34.9	34.8	35.6	35.7	34.5	34.9	34.7
West	20.9	22.4	21.4	20.9	22.0	19.7	18.4
2000:							
United States	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Northeast	19.4	17.8	18.5	17.7	19.6	19.8	21.1
Midwest	22.3	22.6	22.9	22.2	21.8	22.1	22.7
South	36.2	36.0	36.0	36.9	35.8	36.3	36.7
West	22.2	23.6	22.7	23.2	22.7	21.8	19.5
2010:							
United States	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Northeast	18.6	16.8	17.9	17.8	18.8	19.1	19.5
Midwest	20.9	21.5	21.6	21.1	20.4	20.9	21.0
South	37.2	36.6	36.8	37.2	36.6	37.4	38.5
West	23.3	25.2	23.7	24.0	27.2	22.6	21.0

Source: "Projections of the Population of States, by Age, Sex, and Race: 1988 to 2010", Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 1017.

TENNESSEE POPULATION PROJECTIONS

During the remainder of this decade, Tennessee is expected to experience a slight increase in the pre-school age population. The number of children aged five to 17 is projected to decrease slightly from 923,000 in 1986 to 905,000 in 1990. Reflecting the overall changes in the age structure of the United States, Tennessee will experience a decline in the young adult population (aged 18 to 24) and increases in population aged 25 to 64. Between 1986 and 1990 Tennessee is projected to show a population increase of 7.6 percent in the 65-and-over age group.

During the last decade of this century, the number of children under age five is projected to decline by 31,000 while the number of school-age children five to 17 years of age is projected to remain constant. The number of young adults aged 18 to 24 are projected to decline by 27,000. The maturing of the Baby Boomers is reflected in the growth of the population aged 45 to 64 which will increase by 32 percent.

Between the years 2000 and 2010, the number of children under age five is projected to decline by 10,000. The numbers of school-age children will decrease by 70,000. During this period, the aging of the Baby Boomers is reflected in declines for the population aged 25 to 44 and increases in the age group 45 to 64. By the year 2010, Tennessee will have approximately 14.9 percent of its population in the age group 65 and over.

TABLE 42
TENNESSEE POPULATION PROJECTIONS BY AGE AND SEX: 1988, 1990, 2000, 2010

(Numbers in thousands.)

Age	Estimate 1988			Projections								
				1990			2000			2010		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
Total	4,803	2,317	2,485	4,972	2,401	2,571	5,266	2,545	2,721	5,500	2,660	2,841
Under 5 years	327	168	159	332	170	162	301	154	147	291	149	142
5-9 years	343	176	167	341	175	166	329	168	160	300	154	146
10-14 years	347	178	169	351	181	170	357	184	173	324	167	157
15-19 years	379	194	185	371	190	181	368	189	179	357	183	173
20-24 years	407	201	206	366	183	184	348	175	173	362	182	180
25-29 years	432	213	219	417	205	212	344	171	173	352	176	176
30-34 years	401	199	202	435	214	221	364	180	184	344	171	173
35-39 years	373	183	190	399	198	201	429	212	218	354	176	178
40-44 years	292	141	150	359	175	184	445	219	226	374	185	189
45-49 years	248	119	129	289	139	150	405	199	206	437	214	223
50-54 years	228	108	119	242	115	127	360	173	186	448	218	230
55-59 years	223	104	119	221	103	117	281	132	149	398	192	206
60-64 years	214	98	116	213	98	115	226	104	122	339	159	179
65-69 years	194	86	108	204	91	113	200	90	110	258	117	140
70-74 years	155	65	91	163	69	94	177	76	101	190	82	107
75-79 years	117	45	72	125	48	77	145	58	87	145	59	86
80-84 years	70	23	46	78	27	51	94	34	60	106	39	67
85 years and over	54	15	38	64	18	46	94	27	67	121	35	86
5-13 years	615	316	299	626	321	304	615	315	299	558	286	271
14-17 years	308	158	150	279	144	135	289	149	140	276	143	134
18-24 years	553	276	278	525	264	262	498	252	246	509	257	252
18 years and over	3,705	1,754	1,951	3,877	1,839	2,039	4,207	2,001	2,205	4,516	2,154	2,362
21 years and over	3,330	1,563	1,767	3,497	1,645	1,853	3,835	1,811	2,024	4,153	1,968	2,185
Median age	32.0	30.7	33.3	33.5	32.2	34.8	37.7	36.3	39.0	40.8	39.3	42.5

Source: "Projections of the Population of States, by Age, Sex, and Race: 1988 to 2010", Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 1017.

YOUTH PROGRAMS

Both Tennessee and the federal government have developed various programs focusing on the needs of youth in their search for employment. A number of these programs are designed for the summer influx of youth as school is dismissed. The majority of programs are geared toward those who are disabled or from low income families. This section lists some of the larger programs which are available to Tennessee's youth.

JOB CORPS PROGRAM

The Job Corps is a program of vocational training, basic education, and residential living (with some non-residential participants) for economically disadvantaged youth, ages 16 through 21. The mission of the Job Corps is to assist these young men and women to become self-sufficient, responsible adults, with marketable skills and good work habits.

The Job Corps training centers are located throughout the nation. One of them is in Knoxville, Tennessee, though Tennessee youth may be assigned to any center in the Southeastern region.

Activities at a center begin with an orientation program for newly arriving recruits. An occupational exploration program provides "hands-on" experience in actual work activities of various occupations. Basic education classes are offered at the centers, with an opportunity to secure a General Educational Development (GED) high school equivalency diploma. Vocational classes offered vary from one center to another. Recreational, athletic, and other cultural activities are provided during leisure hours.

Other services provided Job Corpsmen include room and board, clothing, books, supplies, counseling, and medical and dental care. Modest cash allowances are paid, including periodic increases and a readjustment allowance for those who qualify. The latter is paid about six to eight weeks after termination from Job Corps.

TARGETED JOBS TAX CREDIT (TJTC)

The Revenue Act of 1978 established the Targeted Jobs Tax Credit. This is an elective federal tax credit that applies to wage cost for certified new employees. Target groups which pertain to youth are: (1) 18- to 22-year-olds from economically disadvantaged families; (2) 16- to 19-year-olds participating in an approved Cooperative Education (CE) program (CE students must be in an economically disadvantaged family); and (3) economically disadvantaged 16- and 17-year-olds who are new employees and work between May 1 and September 15. Employers may find it financially attractive to hire from these target groups.

VICTORY PROGRAM

In 1985, the VICTORY program became Tennessee's special Work Incentive (WIN) program to provide training and employment opportunities for Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) recipients and applicants. The United States Congress passed welfare reform legislation in 1988 which included the Job Opportunities and Basic Skills (JOBS) program. JOBS will replace WIN and will be implemented in Tennessee by October, 1990. Able-bodied AFDC clients with children age three (3) and older who meet program criteria will be required to participate. A major emphasis of the program will be on education. Other components will include job skills, training, job readiness activities, job development, and job placement. Day care as a supportive service is an important strength of the program. JOBS is administered by the Department of Human Services (DHS) which utilizes services from other agencies including the Department of Employment Security.

JOB OUTLOOK AND CAREER INFORMATION

The Tennessee Occupational Information Coordinating Committee (TOICC) produces and distributes the Tennessee Career Guide to all high school juniors and seniors in the state. An exciting youth-oriented curriculum guide and video are distributed to English teachers to use with students viewing the Guide. The Guide contains information on a wide variety of career fields and identifies jobs that will be expanding in Tennessee, using employment information produced by the Department of Employment Security. All postsecondary education and training institutions in the state are listed, along with programs offered at each institution. TOICC also promotes the use of computerized career information delivery systems in junior high, high schools and postsecondary institutions.

The following programs are operated under the Tennessee Department of Labor:

FEDERAL SUMMER AID PROGRAM FOR NEEDY YOUTH/STAY IN SCHOOL PROGRAM

Each year the federal government has provided summer jobs for young people who are disabled, who are from low income families, and/or who need income from summer jobs in order to return to school in the fall. Youth who are employed under this program have the opportunity to make use of the skills they already have, and through special training and on-the-job experience, are able to develop new skills. Eligibility requirements state that participants must (1) be at least 16 years old, and (2) meet economic needs standards established by the Office of Personnel Management. (Severely physically handicapped or mentally retarded youths are exempt from this requirement.)

JOB TRAINING PARTNERSHIP ACT - TITLE II-A

The federal government has designed the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) to provide services such as job search assistance, job counseling, and remedial education and basic skills training. To be eligible, individuals must be economically disadvantaged or have encountered barriers to employment such as having limited English proficiency, being teenage parents, or being handicapped. Youth must be 16 to 21 years old. Job training plans are developed by each Service Delivery Area (SDA) in the state and may include an "education for employment program" for eligible youth who have not attained a high school diploma, with priority given to high school dropouts.

JTPA - TITLE II-B SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

The Job Training Partnership Act has allocated funds to Tennessee for summer employment and training programs for economically disadvantaged youth. Each Service Delivery Area (SDA) develops activities and training programs for its area. These activities may include basic and remedial education, institutional and on-the-job training, work experience programs, employment counseling, occupational training preparation for work, outreach and enrollment activities, employability assessment, job referral and placement, job search and job club activities, and any other employment and training activity designed to give employment to eligible youth or prepare them for and place them into employment. Individuals aged 14 or 15 may be eligible for summer youth activities.

DEFINITIONS

Civilian Labor Force: The civilian labor force is comprised of all persons 16 years and older who are classified as employed or unemployed.

Employed: Employed persons are all those 16 years and older who: (a) worked for pay at any time during the survey week (the calendar week containing the 12th day of the month); (b) worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers in their own business, family business, or family farm during the survey week; or (c) had a job but did not work during the survey week due to illness, bad weather, industrial dispute, vacation, or other personal reasons.

Employment-Population Ratios: Employment-population ratio is that percent of the civilian noninstitutional population which is employed.

Full- and Part-time Workers: Full-time workers are those who usually work 35 hours or more per week. Part-time workers are those who usually work up to and including 34 hours per week.

Labor Force Participation Rate: The labor force participation rate is that percent of the civilian noninstitutional population in the labor force.

Not in the Civilian Labor Force: All persons not classified as employed or unemployed are not in the civilian labor force.

Unemployed: Unemployed persons are those 16 years old and older who: (a) were not working during the survey week (the calendar week containing the 12th day of the month), made specific efforts to find a job during the preceding four weeks, and were available for work during the survey week; (b) were on layoff and waiting to be recalled; or (c) were waiting to report to a new job within thirty days.

Unemployment Rate: The unemployed as a percent of the labor force reveals the rate of unemployment.

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